The Gnostic Handbook

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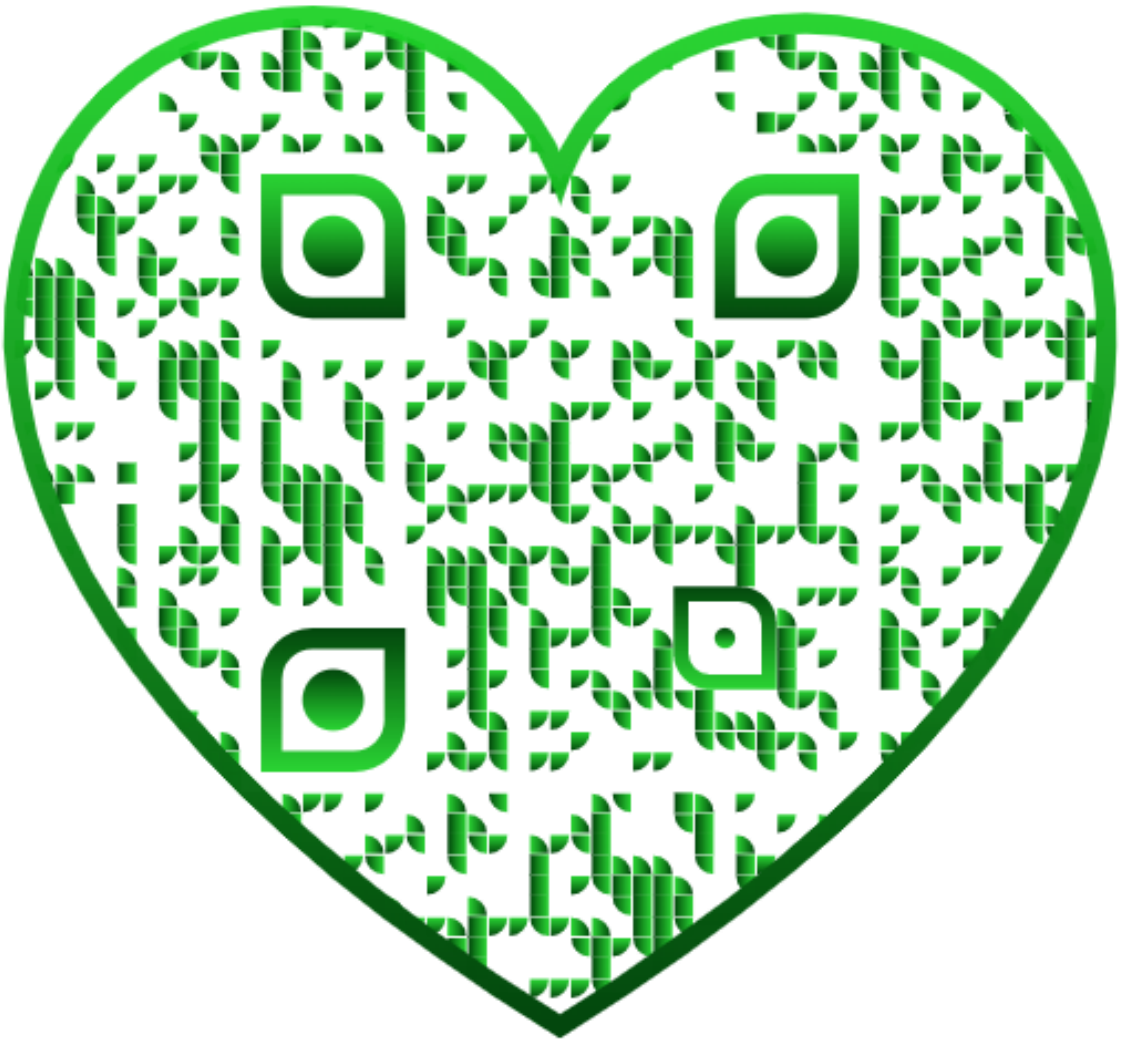

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Introduction

We at the Gnostic Apostolic Church have felt for many years that there is a great need for a study of the principles on which the Gnostic tradition is built. At first we avoided such a task as our knowledge of the Gnostic tradition was still evolving and because any outline of religious symbology can come across as dogmatic and doctrinal. However, as time progressed we realised that if we waited until all the facts were in and we worked to avoid misconception, we would end up with the Gnostic Handbook never being written. Accordingly, we believe that within this handbook is a comprehensive summary of the basic principles of the Gnostic tradition. We realise that it stands in direct opposition to what most of the modern Christian Churches teach today. However, we stand-fast believing that we have been moved by the spirit of the Pleroma to restore the original faith as expounded by the Apostles, and offer this work for your consideration.

In recent times with the advent of fundamentalism of all forms, a clear and precise explanation of the ideals of Gnosticism is not only useful, but mandatory. At the onset it should be made clear that Gnosticism is a personal experience of religion. The term Gnosis means "an experience of knowledge" and religion (from the Latin Religio) means "to bind back to the point of origin" and hence Gnosticism is an experience of the real essence of what God is. It does not represent dry dogmatism or a simple recital of facts, but a real and personal experience of God within human experience. It is in this spirit we issue this handbook. The structure of this handbook is aimed to facilitate easy access of information on basic religious questions. This is not meant to be an exhaustive theological exposition but a summary of the teachings which embody the Gnostic legacy which has been passed onto the Gnostic Apostolic Church. The approach we have taken in this handbook has been a religious one, our primary source of symbolism has come from within the Essene, Valentinian, Zoroastrian and Christian Gnostic traditions. Other interpretations are certainly possible and for those who wish to get “behind” the symbols, interpretations and beliefs we suggest you study the various publications and courses issued by the Institute for Gnostic Studies.

We hope you will find the Gnostic Handbook edifying as well as enjoyable reading..

Algebra, Gnosis and Religion

> Algebra is a branch of mathematics that uses letters etc to represent numbers and quantities. Algebraic is ultimately from Arabic Al-Jabr – reunion of broken parts.
>
> Pocket Oxford Dictionary.

It may be thought that Algebra has little similarity to religion, however, if we consider it more closely they have much in common. Algebra uses letters to represent actions and numbers, it is a system of representation and in a sense, symbolism. This is also the case with religion. Religion uses symbols to stand for realities, it uses images to represent things that cannot be easily imagined or explained. The problem is that Algebra is an academic form of mathematics and has little effect on everyday life while religion controls and influences us more than we would care to admit. Only be removing religious iconography from the realm of the emotions and appreciating it as a symbol system, as a form of divine algebra can we really understand its nature. The Gnostic handbook is one application, one representational system for the ancient Gnosis. It can be seen in many forms and using many symbol systems. Accordingly, it is important to realise the difference between the representational letter and the thing that is represented, between the essence and the form. The Gnostic Apostolic Church hence differentiates between its philosophical works (such as Gnostic Theurgy) and its religious works (such as the Gnostic Handbook).

To give an example, while all Gnostic traditions agree on the dualist nature of the universe, there are many divergent ways of expressing this dualism. Some Gnostic schools have two Yahwehs, a true and false creator. Others see Yahweh as the fallen creator (Demiurge) and postulate a Lord of Wisdom who is the true Creator. While all of these “representational” systems are divergent, their essential message is the same. In algebraic terms while the letters vary, the numbers they represent are identical. This should be kept in mind while studying this Handbook, it is one and one only interpretation of the essential Gnostic wisdom.

The aim of using Algebra according to the Arabs was to have a better understanding

of the real nature of the equation, to find the essential form through the many shards or forms. This too is the vision of the Gnosis, the Arabic meaning of Algebraic is pregnant with meaning – the reunion of broken parts.

The Sources of our Tradition

The Gnostic tradition is one that has spanned Millenniums, it represents the height of the religious traditions of Humanity. Its primary points of focus are found within Vedic Philosophy, Zoroastrianism, Israelite Mystery traditions and Gnosticism. The Gnostic tradition is not culturally locked within the Israelite-Gnostic Christian tradition as many modern exponents seem to profess. It is a Pan-Gnostic tradition, which spans many traditions and cultural milieus. The primary assumption of the Gnostic tradition is that at some point in the dim reaches of time there was a primal universal religion, this religion degenerated as man degenerated and remnants of it are found within the various faiths. These faiths rather than being the primary sources of wisdom within themselves are actually remnants of one earlier, and more pristine school of knowledge. As time progressed the higher kingdoms saw the loss of gnosis and therefore chose to restore the structure of the Mysteries. When Jesus came to the Essenes he purified the structure of the Mystery traditions and re-instated the original Gnostic faith. Hence, the Gnosticism of Jesus is not superior to other Ariosophic faiths, but a refinement or adaptation of an age-long tradition - together the various Ariosophic traditions offer a system applicable to modern man.

These teachings, however, did not remain available forever. As society changed and a new regime came to power the teachings of Jesus were suppressed and replaced with the political faith of Emperor Constantine, and accordingly the Gnosis went underground to ensure its survival. What we have in today's religious movements are not the original forms of Judaism and Christianity, but apostate faiths masquerading in their place. The Bible itself has been tampered with to such an extent that only by returning to fragments of the other Aryan traditions can we restore the primal Gnosis. The Gnostic Apostolic Church upholds the original inner teachings of Jesus. These are a re-instatement of the original and first faith of the Pan-Aryan tribes, remnants of which can also be found in other Aryan faiths - but are found in a more refined form in the esoteric traditions of the early Gnostics.

But it is perhaps desirable to state unequivocally that the teachings here, however, fragmentary and incomplete belong neither to the Hindu's, the Zoroastrian, the Chaldean, nor the Egyptian Religion, nor to Buddhism, Islam, Judaism or Christianity exclusively. The Secret doctrine is the essence of all these.

The Secret Doctrine,

Madame Blavaskty.

Behind the veil of all the hieratic and mystical allegories of ancient doctrines, behind the darkness and strange ordeals of all initiations, under the deal of all sacred writings, in the ruins of Nineveh or Thebes, on the crumbling stones of old temples and on the blackened visage of the Assyrian or Egyptian Sphinx, in the monstrous or marvellous paintings which interpret to the faithful of India the inspired pages of the Vedas, in the cryptic emblems of our old books on alchemy, in the ceremonies practised at receptions of all secret societies, there are found indications of a doctrine which is everywhere the same and everywhere carefully concealed...the key of all divine obscurities and the absolute queen of society in those ages when it was reserved exclusively for the education of priests and kings.

Transcendental Magic,

Eliphas Levi.

Chapter One
First Principles

Who is the Lord of Wisdom?

One of the central issues within any religious tradition is who or what is God ? In many early Aryan faiths there is clear definition of God though this may be expressed through many diverse images and language forms. These definitions while divergent in form, have one thing in common, they all define God without the using descriptions in moral or ethical terms. God simply Is. In some sense this is central to the Gnostic understanding of God for he/she/it is beyond definition, to define God in any way, is in some sense, to limit he/she/it. For the Saivite Hindu, for example, the supreme deity is defined as Shiva with Brahma and Vishnu simply being modes or personas. While in other traditions, Brahman or Vishnu is supreme with the other deities being modes of its expression. In each case, there is still a further more transcendent form, the Parabrahm (or ParaVishnu/Shiva), each being defined as beyond definition with the traditions of divine activities being relegated to the lesser forms or manifestations or interpreted in an allegorical fashion.

In the Zoroastrian faith titles such as Ahura Mazda are superlative definitions of a first cause, while in the later derivative Mithraic faith God was defined as Zurvan or the Lord of Time, since fate or time was believed to be the principle which is beyond all things. For the Gnostic, God simply *IS*. He/she/it is the one source beyond and behind all things, in both the Zoroastrian and Israelite faiths God is usually simply called Lord as this designates a title of respect for a superior. For us, s/he is the Lord of Wisdom.

What's in a name ?

The issue of the name of God is an important one, for in some sense to give something a name is to define it. For Medieval sorcerers to know the name of a spirit was to control it. In the Gnostic tradition we understand the frailty of the human spirit and the desire to project humanity onto divinity, this tendency towards

anthropomorphism is a dangerous one. Since man is fallen and matter is in a state of decay, to project humanity onto divinity is to, by necessity, bring divinity down to a human level. While certainly images, legends, myths and Godnames have their place, their value is in what they represent rather than in themselves. In regards to the name(s) of God in the Old Testament there is a real quandary, there are many names for God, though translated under the one title in English. What makes it more difficult is that each name has a different meaning, the name Elohim, for example, means Mighty Ones (note it is plural) and can be applied to any form of demi-god, destructive or constructive, of the light or of darkness.

Generally speaking, the use of the term Elohim in the Old Testament tends to hide the fact that the beings who are communicating are fallen Archons or worse still, the false creator masquerading as forces of light. The same applies to the formula of YHVH, while it has a esoteric meaning, it too, has been twisted to reflect the barbaric and violent storm God that is falsely represented throughout the Old Testament as the creator. For these reasons Gnostics tend to avoid the Old Testament names of God altogether and identify the Old Testament Yahweh and Elohim with Ialdoboath, the false Archon who brought about the creation of fallen matter.

The Pleroma

The Lord of Wisdom is the title we use for the source of all light, the Unoriginate Originator. However, the Lord of Wisdom does not exist alone, throughout time he/she/it expands and contracts filing the spiritual dimensions with luminous beings of all orders and forms. In the Valentinan hierarchy, for example, there are eight major forms (Aeons) and twenty two minor, in the Kabbalah there are ten major Sephiroth and twenty two paths. The processes by which these realities are created are complex and vary from tradition to tradition. Each of these interpretations can be further expanded to include a whole universe of luminous realities, from the highest forces or Aeons to choirs and angels.

Traditionally this complete spiritual kingdom is known as the Pleroma or fullness, because it is filled to the brim with light and life. At the same time, the major spiritual forces within it are known as Aeons. While in the Gnostic tradition we tend to emphasise the two principles, Logos and Sophia and the Seven Spirits or Aeons,

there is a universe of created beings which exist in the Pleroma and which fulfil the creative directive expressed by the Lord of Wisdom. In one Gnostic tradition, Michael (as a manifestation of the Logos Ray) and first estate predecessor of Jesus, was the first created immortal.

The Two Principles: The Logos and Sophia

Emanating from the Lord of Wisdom and through the Pleroma are two currents, these are known as Logos and Sophia. The Logos is the mind of the Lord of Wisdom, the Sophia is the intuition. These two currents form the manifestation of the Lord of Wisdom into the higher worlds. (See Fig 1). There are many hierarchical locations for these two principles, for example, Valentinus sees the Logos as the first created form (Barbelo), while Sophia is the last emanated Aeon. Regardless of tradition, the Logos and Sophia play major significant roles in the Gnostic hierarchy and are hence seen as the two principles. They should not really be seen as separate or discrete deities but as facets of the Lord of Wisdom in action. Since the Lord of Wisdom is beyond definition when the Lord initiates activity, results take place through the various facets of his being and via a hierarchy or dynasty of forces and forms. The two most important of these are the Logos and Sophia. The Logos is known as Spenta Mainyu in the Zoroastrian tradition and is the Mind of the Lord of Wisdom in action, in mythology this facet of the Lord is known as his first son.

Fig 1

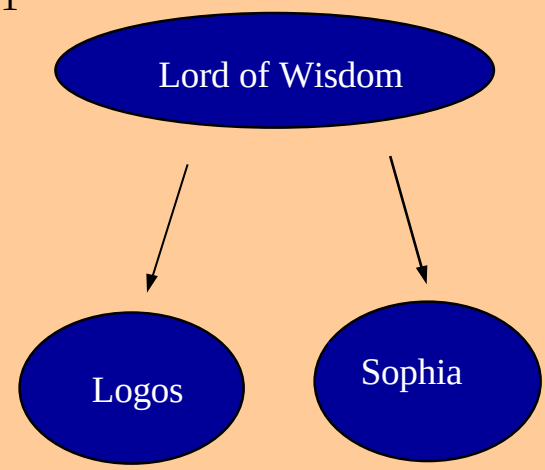
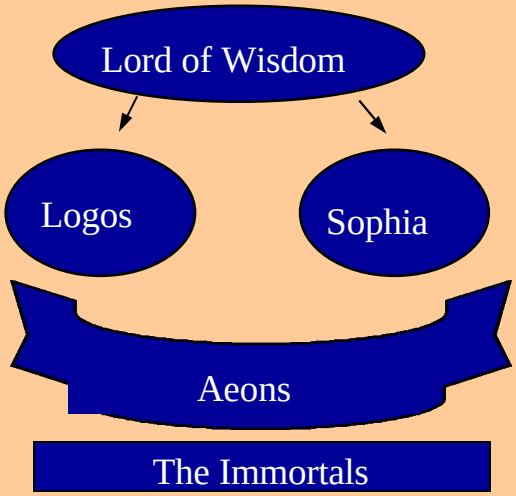


Fig 2



What are the Aeons ?

According to the Gnostic traditions these two forces further manifest through a series of forms or entities. These forms can be expressed in many different ways, the most traditional is to know them as Aeons, while in Egypt they would have been called Sacred Principles or Neters. In the Zoroastrian tradition they are known as the Holy Spirits (Spenta Amesha). (These are akin to the Seven Spirits before the Throne in the Book of Revelation). These forces can, in some sense, be even understood as the seven aspects of The Lord of Wisdom. This links interestingly with some western traditions, which see the Seven Spirits before the throne (Revelation 4:5) as seven phases of the Holy Ghost. These Aeons or spirits have many different aspects and facets. They work against the fallen Archons to awaken mankind and in every age they reveal a different mystery and gnosis to awaken slumbering humanity. They may also be related to the Seven Rays of the Theosophical and Rosicrucian Mystery traditions. In the heavenly hierarchy these spirits are again emanations from the Lord of Wisdom, they have no separate existence. Under them are formed the Immortals, beings that embody each ray or spirit. (See Fig 2 & 3).

> And out of the throne proceeded lightning and thundering and voices: and there were seven lamps of fire burning before the throne, which are the seven Spirits of God.
>
> **Revelation 4:5**

The Seven Spirits

Fig 3

1.	**Khshathra Vairya**	Desirable Power, The Kingdom of God
2.	**Haurvatat**	Wholeness, Health
3.	**Spenta Armaiti**	Holy Piety, Devotion
4.	**Ameretat**	Long life, Immortality
5.	**Vohu Manah**	Good purpose, good thought
6.	**Asha Vahishta**	Best, Right, Truth, Order
7.	**Spenta Mainyu**	The Holy One

Jesus as the First-born of Creation

One of the major debates in Christianity has been about the nature of Jesus, while many traditions emphasise monotheism others border on polytheism or offer strange combinations of belief in such forms as the trinity. Since many of the early Aryan religions such as the Israelite Mystery tradition, the Vedic and the Zoroastrian emphasised that God is a unity, there seems to be a contradiction between this and the supposed incarnation of Christ. However, when we examine the New Testament in a critical manner some important facts come to light. Jesus over and over again claimed to be the Messiah and the Son of God, but not God himself. He prayed to the Father and spoke of God as a separate entity to whom he was obedient. In the Gospel of John the identity of Jesus is the central theme, the aim of this Gospel is to show the reader that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, not God the Son (John 21:31). While John himself clearly tells us that Jesus distinguished himself from the father who is the "Only one God" (John 17;3, 5:44, 6:27). We also find St.Paul clearly describing Jesus as the first-born of every creature and the firstborn of the dead (Col 1:13,15,18). This is echoed in the *Book of Revelation* where we read that Jesus is the "Beginning of the Creation of God". Over and over again we find nothing of Jesus being God or even equal with God. Jesus is clearly the firstborn of creation, the first created being. Jesus is the messenger of the Pleroma whose father is the Lord of Wisdom and whose enemy is the false creator of the Old Testament.

Jesus, Christ and Logos

When we come to understand that Jesus is a created being a new picture of divinity arises. Jesus was the first created being, Michael, the first of the immortals created through the power of the Logos. There is one Source of light, the Lord of Wisdom and other created beings formed by the force of the divine mind. Jesus in the first estate (before coming into a physical body) is Michael, that immortal who plays such an important role in the Cosmic battle we will discuss later. When Michael is born into the Essene community, he becomes Jesus. At his Baptism, after years of training (the so-called Lost years) he became the Christ. His special Essene training had involved processes that cleansed the human state by the power of Sophia and transformed his bodily vehicle into a form that was made pure enough for the full manifestation of the Logos. Jesus as an individual, discrete being (Michael) still

existed but communed with the Logos within him. Jesus was not and is not God or the Logos or Christ, he became Christed and hence in that understanding is known as Jesus the Christ. The term Christ means "anointed" and refers to the state of sonship to the Lord of Wisdom. Jesus at his baptism communed with the Mind of God (Logos), his actions came to embody the Spirit of God (Sophia) and he became a full son of God (Christ).

> We speak of God, of the Son, his Word, and of the Holy Spirit and we say that the Father, the Son and the Spirit are united in power. For the Son is the intelligence, reason and wisdom of the Father and the Spirit is an effluence, as light from fire. In the same way we recognise that there are other powers which surround matter and pervade it.
>
> Athenagoras
>
> Generally speaking the ancient Gnostics primarily viewed Christ as an eternal, celestial power, the Logos with which it is possible to have an intimate, personal relation, since our higher consciousness is made in its image. For this reason, Gnostics stressed the experience union with the divine and showed little interest in the historical Jesus, whom it has always been impossible to know in a concrete sense or even accurately in a historical sense.
>
> Jesus Christ, Sun of God.
>
> David Fideler,
>
> Quest Books. 1993.

The state of Christhood is a state to which all of us must aim, it is the state by which we return to the Pleroma. The Logos and Sophia as energy fields from the Lord of Wisdom emanate into the fallen world and if permitted will transform us into immortal beings. This teaching is *The Solar Tradition* and is central to our understanding of the Gnosis. We will return to it in some detail later.

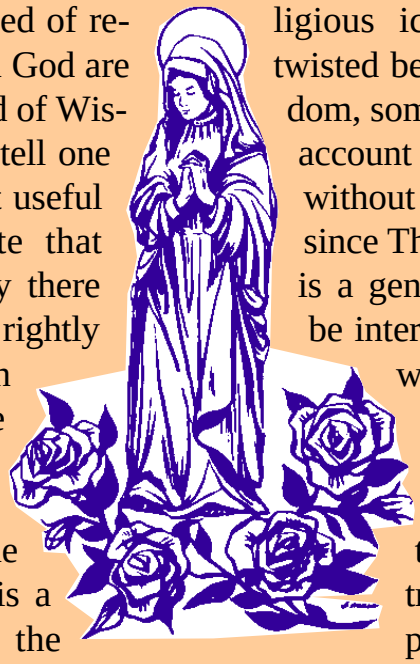
What is Sophia ?

A major contention in Christian theology has always existed over the nature of the Holy Spirit. In modern thought the Holy Spirit is seen as the third person of a Trinity, however, from historical evidence we find that this belief only dates from the time of the Nicean creed. Generally speaking the term Spirit in the New Testament (John 14:26) is neuter, the use of male pronouns in relation to this term rather than referring to a deity tends to refer to the process of personification used in the Bible. For example, in the Old Testament (Psalm 96:11,12) we have fields, trees, hills etc. all personified with the same pronoun, hence the term is used more in the sense of personification. In the writings of St.Paul we read a lot about the Father and the role of Christ, but nothing of the action of a third party. For example, in 1 Corinthians 3:23 we read that Christians are said to belong to Christ as he belongs to the father, but no mention is made of us also belonging to the supposed third member of the Trinity. Throughout St.Paul's writing we find reference to Christ and his relationship to the Father, but nothing intimating a Trinity role for the Holy Spirit.

The general understanding of the Holy Spirit as found in the Gnostic tradition is that it is the power of the Lord of Wisdom, it is personified in the same way we may describe the power of a entity, however, it has no individuality per see. It is the Lord of Wisdom in action, akin to the Logos being the Mind of the Lord. At the same time however there is an important Old Testament tradition which sees the Holy Spirit as Wisdom (Sophia) and hence identifies it as feminine. To fully appreciate this we need to dig below the surface to gain a special understanding of the Godhead. The Father is gender-variant in the human sense but is obviously (Logos and Sophia), passive and active in nature. Hence, the Lord of Wisdom is seen as androgynous. While at the same time the Logos and Sophia are different facets of the Lord of Wisdom as active in the higher and lower worlds. The Logos is active and characterised as masculine beacause it functions as the the analysing mind, while the Holy Spirit is his power in Action and is seen as feminine. These powers do have, in actuality, personality but not individuality, as they are personas of the Lord of Wisdom. Hence, the Holy Spirit is a feminine energy of God. To fully appreciate this we need to consider the iconography of Sophia.

The Nature of Sophia

This is an important question for it brings to mind all the issues regarding religion and gender. The simple answer is that the Lord of Wisdom, being beyond humanity, is androgynous, or probably more correctly, beyond gender. Though the male image is used in the Bible there is no strict gender imperative in relation to who God is. The Old testament is comprised of religious iconography and legends not Gnostic fact, its views on God are twisted beyond recognition and it sometimes talks about the Lord of Wisdom, sometimes about the Archon Yahweh and it is difficult to tell one account from another. Accordingly its advice on God it not that useful without some Gnostic understanding first. We can appreciate that since The Lord of Wisdom was seen in terms of creative activity there is a general personification of him as Male, but this can only rightly be interpreted as imagery and iconography, not reality. When we consider humans, regardless of sex, can return to the Pleroma, then we realise that sex bias is non-existent in the Gnostic tradition. One of the most unique traditions in regards to the nature of the Holy Spirit is the tradition of Sophia, the Goddess of Wisdom. This is a tradition of great age and some beauty that personifies the power of the Holy Spirit as distinctly female. For example, in Proverbs particularly we have Sophia wandering the street begging men to love her. While in the following quotes we may even begin to think that Sophia or Wisdom is separate, yet in reality, Sophia is a facet of the Lord of Wisdom himself.



> Wisdom crieth without; she uttereth her voice in the streets: She crieth in the chief place of concourse, in the openings of the gates: in the city she uttereth her words, saying, How long, ye simple ones, will ye love simplicity? and the scorners delight in their scorning, and fools hate knowledge?

> Turn you at my reproof: behold, I will pour out my spirit unto you, I will make known my words unto you. Because I have called, and ye refused; I have stretched out my hand, and no man regarded; But ye have set at

> nought all my counsel, and would none of my reproof: I also will laugh at your calamity; I will mock when your fear cometh; When your fear cometh as desolation, and your destruction cometh as a whirlwind; when distress and anguish cometh upon you. Then shall they call upon me, but I will not answer; they shall seek me early, but they shall not find me: For that they hated knowledge, and did not choose the fear of the LORD:They would none of my counsel: they despised all my reproof. Therefore shall they eat of the fruit of their own way, and be filled with their own devices.
>
> For the turning away of the simple shall slay them, and the prosperity of fools shall destroy them. But whoso hearkeneth unto me shall dwell safely, and shall be quiet from fear of evil. The LORD possessed me in the beginning of his way, before his works of old....When he prepared the heavens, I was there: when he set a compass upon the face of the depth: When he established the clouds above: when he strengthened the fountains of the deep: When he gave to the sea his decree, that the waters should not pass his commandment: when he appointed the foundations of the earth: Then I was by him, as one brought up with him: and I was daily his delight, rejoicing always before him.
>
> Proverbs 1:20-33, 8:22,27-30.

Sophia, hence, should not be understood as a distinct deity. We need to understand Sophia in context and see Sophia as a strong personification of the impersonal power of the Lord of Wisdom. As the Logos is male and creative in activity, Sophia is passive and feminine. In some traditions, specifically found within the Russian Orthodox traditions (and many pagan faiths), Sophia's symbolism is even further developed, these images are relevant for the Gnostic and can certainly offer a deeper and more mystical understanding of the nature of the Holy Spirit if understood within the context of the Gnostic view of the Godhood, by themselves they are reduced to the more malefic forms of earth and goddess worship.

> This great being, both royal and feminine, who being neither God nor the Eternal Son of God, neither angel nor saint, receives the veneration of the One who accomplishes the Old Testament, as well of the One

> who is the begetter of the New Testament; who is she, then, but the truest humanity, the purest and most whole of beings, the macrocosmic whole, the living soul of nature and of the universe eternally united and uniting in the process of time with the divine and uniting all that is.
>
> The Pillar and Foundation of the Truth,
>
> Pavel Florensky.

The importance of Sophia can be best understood when we understand the primal myth behind her nature. Throughout many cultures there has been the legend of the Goddess who is stolen from the world of life and is taken to the underworld. There she is kept captive pinning for her lover who is still in the other world. She waits and pines until at last some salvation is achieved by her hero coming into the underworld to save her. However, this salvation is at a cost and together they end in a battle against the underworld until the completion of the tale. Though there are many modifications of this tale, it is the story of the spark of God within man. Mans true self is caught in the coils of earth and is lost in the consciousness of matter. The nature of the spirit-spark within man is that of being a seed, God in potential. In Hebrew it is called the Ruach and interestingly, one definition offered of the Ruach is Sophia. So, here we have an Israelite version of the classic tale. The spirit of God in man is a spark, a seed of Light, it is caught in matter and crying out for Salvation. The Logos embodied in Jesus answers the call and through great suffering offers salvation. But it is not that simple, for while Sophia still lives in the world system, she can only travel to the upperworld by day and must return to the underworld by night or so the legend goes.

So man, on the Path of Transfiguration, though being reborn through the powers of the Lord of Wisdom must live in the world, but try not to be of it. Sophia hence offers us some fascinating insights into the nature of God. She is the Daughter of The Lord of Wisdom and yet is the Lord himself, the Spouse and Lover of the Logos and the Spirit within Man. She is reflected in the light hidden in nature, the Ecclesia, the Gnostic Scripture and Man, and illustrates the presence of light in all things.

In each of these things Sophia manifests the Lord of Wisdom. In the material world Sophia is the presence of God in nature. Even after the fall of man, nature still

exhibits the divine spark, though its lustre has been sorely diminished. Nature is fallen and degenerated, granted, but it fell according to the archetypal pattern of spirit on which it was moulded. In the Church Sophia is the Bride of Christ embodied in the Ecclesia, in the Scriptures Sophia is Wisdom and in man she is the very essence which changes him from mortal to immortal, she is the Holy Ghost.

> Therefore Sophia is twofold, at once divine and creaturely - above and before creation and in creation.….In the world, Sophia is actualised - as the earth's Eros for heaven, all creation longing for liberation from the bondage of corruption for the radiance of Sophianic light, for beauty and transfiguration.
>
> Sophia - The Wisdom of God.
>
> Sergei Bulgakov,
>
> Lindisfarne Press, 1993.

The concept of Sophia is alien to many western Gnostics and yet when we clearly study the Bible in the light of the Gnosis, we find she is an integral part of divinity. When we consider how often the concept of Sophia is linked to the concept of Wisdom, we can achieve a deeper understanding of the power and beauty of the Pleroma.

A Summary

In Summary, we can see that there is one source of light, The Lord of Wisdom, who has many different facets and many names. There is a universe of light, life and action within the fullness (Pleroma) of the higher world. From within this hierarchy, the Principles of Logos and Sophia and the Seven Aeons are particularly emphasised in the Gnostic Tradition. There are many immortals and under them various strata of spiritual creation which can be understood as part of the Aeonic hierarchy. The first created immortal was Michael/Jesus, who, under the influence of the Logos battled against the Hostile spirit and achieved a state of Christhood. Humanity, driven out of the Pleroma can through the spiritual path of Gnosis rise above the prison of the material kingdoms and return home to the Treasury of Light.

These concepts are central to the Solar Mysteries and were part of the original Egyptian Gnosis, whose remnants are found in Vedic, Zoroastrian and Israelite traditions. It is being re-instated as the Gnosis is revived in the twentieth century..

Chapter Two
The Origin of Matter

The Gnostic Secret - The Creator is Evil

For the Gnostic matter is evil, it is a prison for the soul. It was not created by the source of light, the Lord of Wisdom, but by a lesser God, a Demiurge. There are many traditions and explanations of how this occurred, it has always been the secret teaching of esoteric and occult orders. In modern Gnosticism we sometimes call this error the “primal mistake” or the Alpha Event, in some sense this is inaccurate as the contamination of spirit by matter occurred through a sequence or series of events, it perhaps even continues to occur. It is difficult to encapsulate the nature of this error, perhaps what we can do, is to outline the various paradigms the early Gnostics used to explain it. While they may seem divergent in imagery and symbolism and there is some variation in the degree of responsibility placed on the Demiurge or lesser creator, all agree that matter has a tendency towards evil and was created by an error.

For the Valentinians the primal error occurred after a long process of hierarchical expansion, the Unoriginate Originator expanded into manifestation and hierarchies on hierarchies took form. Each hierarchy manifested a further hierarchy until, finally, the last emanation, Sophia was created. Sophia, being the last creation, did not understand the nature of what had occurred, in her anguish she created Ialdaboath. Ialdaboath in his ignorance believed he was the creator and formed matter, by his error, Sophia herself became trapped in his creation as did thousands of beings of light that came to believe his error. This tradition is intriguing as it paints the Demiurge in an ignorant rather than malefic role, in some sense it embodies the ambivalence found in much Hermetic literature where the “false creator” is seen more as a blundering demi-god than as a adversary.

For the Kabbalists the fall occurred on a far more ethereal level, when the cosmic light of Ain Soph began to expand it produced emanations known as Sephiroth or light centres. As these Sephiroth or light vessels began to create a hierarchy of being,

a reflection was cast onto the ocean of cosmic spirit and this reflection, being distorted, gave birth to destructive and twisted forces (Klippoth), which in turn created the material world.

Even among the Gnostics there are many variations in interpretations of the the fall. Some traditions see Yahweh as the Lord of Wisdom, others see him as the Demiurge. Some have two Yahwehs, a true Light Lord and a false substitute. Some sects refuse the whole Old Testament saying it is the work of the False Yahweh, while others even see the serpent in Genesis as a premonition of the saviour. The point is that as long as your symbolism is consistent within itself the iconography does not matter, it is the underlying truth that is the point of reference.

For a more modern twist, one science fiction writer (with a penchant for occultism and a strange adaptation of psychology) outlined the Gnostic myth in a more technological form. Millions of years ago in the spiritual dimensions, a spirit entity decided he wanted more power than was his due, he created a sequence of mind traps or games. These games or traps enthralled the other spirit beings and as they became involved in them, they found themselves creating material reality. The final game involved forgetting who they were and entering into matter, hence, they entrapped themselves.

Modern adaptations of the Alpha Event are not unusual. For example, there is much discussion about the possibility that extra-terrestrial entities genetically engineered mankind. These theories were made popular by such writers as Sitchin and on a more vulgar level by Von Daniken. Whether we wish to use a highly spiritual and ethereal description such as that by the Kabbalists or see the fall in more material terms it is of little importance, it occurred and the algebra we use to represent it is somewhat irrelevant.

In some sense however, the extra-terrestrial hypothesis has the benefit of expanding the fall of man beyond the purely spiritual. We may suggest that as the spirit being, lets call him Satanel, fell from the Pleroma he taught his fallen comrades the art of creating matter. As centuries passed they created worlds which existed way beyond the confines of earth. These worlds battled on the side of the fallen ones against the forces of light and in the hope of expanding their dominion they created planet earth

and filled it with their own creation. However, once again civilisations lined up on either side and the earth was decimated by warfare. After millennia of such battles, the Adamic creation took place and the cosmic battle became centred on a modern form of the human species.

There are many versions of the story, the most common Gnostic myth is embodied in the tale of Genesis and since most of us are of Western background we are somewhat familiar with the Christian version, what we shall consider here is the Gnostic rendition of the tale. While this version of the Alpha Event tends towards anthropomorphism and can strike some as too “human”, it should be remembered we are talking in “algebra” rather than in real terms.

What about Genesis ?

The only way we can really understand Genesis is to consider the god-names within it, terms such as Elohim are the key. Elohim is plural and comes from EL or Mighty One, it is Cannanite in origin and suggests the polytheism that the word originated in. The term Elohim when used could be easily related to the Gnostic definition of Archon, the Elohim are many, they are mighty and warriors. They are clearly Demi-Gods, Yahweh is one of these Archons. Rather than being a “lord of Light” the Old Testament shows Yahweh as a violent, controlling, Demi-God who enslaves Israel through covenants and Laws, it is only through the Jesus-Gnosis that they are liberated.

The Old Testament is hence a very difficult book to work with. The Old Testament account was written by Edomite Pharisaic Scribes in Babylonian Exile, they were in league with the Archon Yahweh and hence moulded the Old testament to fit their legalistic paradigm. While there are scraps of wisdom throughout the Old Testament they are mixed with half-truths and presented with twisted logic. The original story of the history of man is unwritten, the Old Testament is the tale as how the Pharisees would like it remembered, not how it really happened.

The true beginning is not found in the Bible, while there are hints in the Genesis process, that is all they are - hints. Some time the Unoriginate Originator, the true Lord of Light decided to expand and fill the universe with light. This expansion is

recorded in many Gnostic traditions in various ways, it was a process of emanation through which a hierarchy of light was created. It is a complex metaphysical process and we will discuss it in some detail later, suffice it to say a hierarchy of light was the result. This hierarchy was filled with luminous beings of all orders and forms, this hierarchy, this family was called the “Pleroma” or “fullness” since it was filled to the brim with light and life.

Within this Pleroma were many different Lifestreams, sparks of light growing, exploring and learning. These forms, existing in this light world, were known as those of the “first estate”. As millennia progressed, a problem arose in the fullness. Nobody really understands how this occurred, some believed that Sophia, the last of the emanations had somehow stepped beyond her role and given birth to anger and frustration. Others believe that Satanel, one of the Aeons, rebelled against the order of the Pleroma. We will really never know what happened.

However, from this error a cosmic split evolved, the fullness withdrew into itself and an empty wasteland was formed, the dialectic kingdom. In this kingdom, the false creator or Demiurge began to use the universal substance in ways unknown before, he created a kingdom of his own, matter. Since this substance was without divine blessing, it was alien to the Pleroma and was unstable and destructive. As time progressed the Demiurge, we can call him Satanel for ease of communication, populated his lower worlds with strange creatures and mutations and encouraged other forms of light to enter into his kingdom. Some believe a third of the Aeons fell with him, they became known as the Archons or Principalities and Dominions. Together they created the material worlds and the kingdoms within it, since they used their own essence in this creation, minute particles of light were caught into the creation, so it became a mixture of light and darkness. As they moulded the animal creation they decided to attempt to capture souls from the First Estate. They genetically engineered apes and created human like forms. These forms were lascivious, sensual and unlike anything seen in the Pleroma and were located in various places of seduction and desire (this is what the word Eden means). Their aim was to tempt spirits (Pneuma) and seduce them away from the First Estate.

This was the fall, spirits were captivated by the human shells and entered them, they encountered the pleasures they offered but found they could not escape. A dreamlike

sleep came over them and they even forgot who they really were. This was the true story of Eden. The Genesis account is a mixture of many divergent stories and tales. The serpent of Eden can have various meanings, in the Genesis epic it represents wisdom. Spirits were attracted by the fallen garden and its Archon Lord and seduced into entering the physical forms through which they fell into the slumber of the flesh. The Pleroma decried the deception and sent the Serpent to awaken the captured souls, the serpent of wisdom explained the truth that their bodies and minds were distortions made by the Archons, and that they were really spirit beings from another kingdom. This Gnosis is recorded in mythology as eating from the tree of Knowledge of Good and Evil. When the Archon found out he was furious, he knew they could be slaves no longer. He had hoped that in their sleep they would work and slave for him and for other Archons, but he hadn't succeeded. He threw them out of the garden of pleasure and cursed them with pain and suffering. This account, of course, radically changes the way we view the Old Testament. The names of God, such as Elohim and Yahweh, are descriptions of the Archons not divine appellations, the Laws and Covenants are methods to enslave and control us. The Old Testament is so distorted it is nearly impossible to rebuild.

In regards to Adam and Eve we know, for example, that their two sons Cain and Abel both submitted to the Demiurge, one by sacrifice and the other by murder. So the Pleroma intervened and set Seth to remind them again of what was occurring and the truth about Yahweh. They did not listen and hence they bound themselves to the Archon Yahweh. The Old Testament is a sad account of much that occurred. At times they realised their error, such as with Noah, Moses and Solomon, but the Archon again twisted them back to his obedience. In the end Israel was dispersed and became the Indo European people. This was the fate of the Adamic Lifestream. In Babylon the Archon Yahweh called his soulless ones to take control of the Israelite tradition and they gave birth to the Old Testament, the Talmud and Pharisaic Judaism. The Archon Yahweh now believed he had total control, until, under guidance from the Pleroma, the Essenes withdrew into the desert and began to decipher the truth about the Bible. While still in some delusion, they worked diligently to find the truth. From their community Jesus, the light bringer was born.

El, Yahweh and Reconsidering the Bible

As mentioned above the Old Testament is a very difficult text for the Gnostic to deal with. Most of the names of the Lord of Wisdom have been co-opted by the Demiurge and used to his own end. For example, Elohim is a plural term and means the mighty ones. These mighty ones can be messengers of light or of darkness, in the Old Testament they tend to represent the dominions of the Demiurge but the term is really quite ambiguous. The term Yahweh is much the same, it is actually a secret formula represented the four principles, however, the Pharisaic scribes used it as a designation for the storm God who in the end is called Yahweh or in corrupted English, Jehovah.

However, there is more to these terms than first meets the eye, and they open up a Pandora's box of issues we need to consider. Even modern scholars believe that the Old Testament is not a coherent whole, when it is subjected to Biblical criticism it is found that there are at least three different streams of information within it. The El Stream, the Yahwahist Stream and the Priestly Stream. The El Stream is the very earliest, it seems to represent the pagan traditions of Canaan and surroundings. Within this tradition the Gods are known as El or the Mighty Ones, one of the more important is Baal. Associated with these Gods are goddesses, the major being is known as Athirat. Together Baal and Athirat form the basis of the pagan Canaanite tradition. As Israel became a nationalistic and political society the El tradition was suppressed. This was part of the corrupt Covenant Israel made with the Archon Yahweh. The new tradition was the Yahwahist Stream. Yahweh becomes the Mighty One, Baal is vanquished and replaced with the tradition of the coming Warrior Messiah, with the goddess relegated to the shadows. The history of Israel is, in some sense, the battle between these two streams or religious traditions and between these two streams and the Gnosis ! In studying the Old Testament we need to realise that it is not the Word of God but a remnant, a historical record of what occurred within Israel at that period. While it contains scraps of the original Mysteries it is not primarily a religious text, but a mixture of myths, legends, histories and interpretations. While certainly the esoteric keys are found hidden throughout its pages we must also be aware of the distortions of the Gnosis that exist within it.

The Priestly Stream (that of the Scribe) rightly belongs beyond the Old Testament, it occurred after the captivity in Babylon when Edomite scribes took control of Diaspore Israel in Babylon and re-moulded Judaism into a new form. This new form was based on Edomite (see later notes) not Aryan values. The Yahwahist tradition was embodied, the El demolished and the Priest class was edited into the Old Testament to make it seem supreme. The Old Testament, as such, is a very edited book. It was written by a Priest class which existed a long time after the original events, and a class which wanted to destroy the traditional power of the Qadesh (see later discussion of this group) and mould the Yahwahist tradition into a militaristic style cult. This moulded Old Testament, (combined with the Edomite Talmud) became the text of modern Jewry. When the Aryan-Israelites migrated to other lands after the Assyrian captivity (See Gnostic Identity study) they re-established many of the Gnostic traditions. Hence, the Druids and those of the Celtic faith probably had more in common with the original Israelite Gnosis that modern Judaism and Christianity. We can see how the struggle between various divergent traditions has been edited into the Old testament, Joseph's Coat of many colours, for example, a Sumerian symbol of a Qadesh priest became a simple piece of clothing. Baal has been demonised to become the enemy of the people of Israel yet we know that the early Priests of Israel actually accepted Baal as part of their faith and there are other examples too numerous to mention. In some sense the creation story and other tales in the Old Testament echo this re-writing of history, while they certainly contain images and icons of the original Aryan faith, they also reflect the distorted tradition established by the Pharisaic Priesthood. One of the best examples of this is the image of the Serpent. The Serpent was a sacred symbol of the Israelite tradition, throughout the Old Testament it is also used as a symbol of wisdom. Moses uses a serpent to heal the people of Israel, in Gematria the serpent has the same numerical as the Christ and is seen as a "type" of Jesus. Yet, at the same time, the Serpent is cursed in the priestly rendition of Genesis and seen as a symbol of evil.

> And the Lord said unto Moses, Make thee a fiery serpent, and set it upon a pole: and it shall come to pass, that every one that is bitten, when he looketh upon it, shall live
>
> Numbers 21:8

The serpent clearly is the symbol of Gnosis, wisdom and the earliest traditions. Again, while we can see remnants of the Aryan faith in the myths and legends of Genesis, we can also see clearly the later addition of elements that the Edomite Priesthood could use to fight against the Israelite tradition. While we do not aim to try and summarise the Qadesh tradition here, it was an inner esoteric tradition that embodied a special form of technology aimed at transforming man into god (deification). It represented the highest class within the spiritual hierarchy and included forms of Shamanism, ritual technology and Gnostic Science. It was the esoteric heart of the Israelite people, regardless of the nature of the outer forms. It was similar to the inner grades of the Essenes and Gnostic sects and is at the heart of the Gnostic Apostolic Faith.

What about Satanel ?

> How art thou fallen from heaven, O Lucifer, son of the morning! how art thou cut down to the ground, which didst weaken the nations! For thou hast said in thine heart, I will ascend into heaven, I will exalt my throne above the stars of God: I will sit also upon the mount of the congregation, in the sides of the north: I will ascend above the heights of the clouds; I will be like the most High. Yet thou shalt be brought down to hell, to the sides of the pit. They that see thee shall narrowly look upon thee, and consider thee, saying, Is this the man that made the earth to tremble, that did shake kingdoms; That made the world as a wilderness, and destroyed the cities thereof; that opened not the house of his prisoners? All the kings of the nations, even all of them, lie in glory, every one in his own house. But thou art cast out of thy grave like an abominable branch, and as the raiment of those that are slain, thrust through with a sword, that go down to the stones of the pit; as a carcass trodden under feet. Thou shalt not be joined with them in burial, because thou hast destroyed thy land, and slain thy people: the seed of evildoers shall never be renowned. Prepare slaughter for his children for the iniquity of their fathers; that they do not rise, nor possess the land, nor fill the face of the world with cities.
>
> Isaiah 14:12-21

> Here Satanel was thrown down from the Height - And one from out of the order of angels, having turned away with the order that was under him, conceived an impossible thought, to place his throne higher than the clouds above the earth, that he might become equal in rank to my power. And I threw him out from the height with his angels and he was flying in the air continuously above the bottomless.
>
> Book of the Secrets of Enoch, 29:4-5.

The battle between Satanel and Michael is another interpretation of the Gnostic myth. In some sense it is better known as it has been coopted by both Jewish and Christian traditions. The Fall of Lucifer, the light bearer, in some ways explains what happened before Genesis. It is one understanding of the Alpha Event. Here we have one of the many Pleroma beings, becoming so vain, so self centred that he causes a rift and a war in the heavens. It is an anthropomorphic myth and hence avoided by many Gnostics, but it is descriptive. The idea of a council of Aeons and a disagreement about the future of the Lifestreams and one Aeon, Satanel, leading the rebellion certainly has a political feel that can make this fall legend particularly communicative. Regardless of whether we identify the false creator as Yahweh or whether we use the later Bogomil and Cathar rendition of the tale that makes Yahweh the Lord of Wisdom and Satanel the creator, the content is the same. The algebra simply changes.

> The Church teaches that God is the source of all perfect and that the whole world, visible and invisible, is His creation. Yet one does not need to be a philosopher to observe that in this world of ours moral and physical evil - suffering, cruelty, decay, death - is abundantly present. How then can God, the supreme Good, be the cause of suffering and evil ? Must He be held responsible for wars, epidemics, the oppression of the poor by the rich ?....The Bogomils (A Medieval Gnostic sect) had an answer which was at least logical and consistent; evil and pain are inherent in this world because the world is the creation of the Evil One.
>
> The Byzantine Commonwealth, Obolensky.

The world is the work of lowly powers which though they may mediately be descended from Him do not know the true God and obstruct the knowledge of Him in the cosmos over which they rule. The genesis of these lower powers, the Archons, and in general that of all of the Orders of being outside God, including the world itself, is the main theme of Gnostic speculation....The universe, the domain of the Archons is like a vast prison whose innermost dungeon is the earth, the scene of mans life. Around and above it the cosmic spheres are ranged like concentric enclosing shells. Most frequently there are seven spheres of the planets surrounding by the eighth that of the fixed stars....

The religious significance of this cosmic architecture lies in the idea that everything which intervenes between here and the beyond serves to separate from God, not merely by spatial distance but by active demonic force. Thus the vastness and multiplicity of the cosmic system express the degree to which man is removed from God.....

The Archons collectively rule over the world and each individually in his sphere is a warder of the cosmic prison. Their tyrannical world-rule is called Hiemarmene, universal Fate.....[This universal fate] aims at the enslavement of man. As guardian of his sphere each Archon bars the passage to the souls than seek to ascent after death, in order to prevent their escape from the world and their return to God.

The Gnostic Religion,

Hans Jonas.

The Sacred Serpent

The Serpent is an image central to the Gnosis, while this may at first seem unusual when we come to appreciate the esotericism of the Serpent we can understand its significance. The major problem which arises with the iconography of the serpent or snake is the prejudice found in most Christian literature, this all too clearly, however, comes from a misunderstanding of the image and distortion found in the Old Testament text.

The Bible as a whole has an ambivalent view of the serpent or snake, on one hand it seems to be represented as evil, even as an icon of the devil himself, while on the other it is used to represent wisdom and even perhaps salvation. The most obscure image is that found in Numbers 21:8-9 and Isaiah 15:29 where the serpent is used as an image of redemption. Moses holds up the serpent (on a cross) to heal Israel - most Christian scholars agree that this is a type of the coming Messiah, in Christian terms, Jesus himself. Accordingly, we have the unusual suggestion of the Serpent as Jesus. In Hebrew numerology the numerical value of the serpent or snake is that of the Messiah. Many Gnostic sects saw the serpent as the agent of redemption and the primary symbol of Gnosis. The Ophites (from the Greek word for serpent, Ophis), like many modern Gnostic groups, ourselves included, believe that the serpent of the Genesis story was a representative for the Lord of Light (as was Jesus), while the Creator depicted in the Old Testament was seen as the Demiurge. It has been suggested that since there was no town known as Nazareth existing in the first century common era, that the epithet Nazarene may actually be Naasarene which means the Serpentine and refers to Jesus' ancestry within the Gnostic communion.

The iconography of the Serpent links the Gnostics with the earliest occult traditions. In ancient Egypt the Serpent was the symbol of duality, it was both creative and destructive. Since it had both a forked tongue and dual penis, it was used to represent the potential's for good and evil within sexuality and the intellect. As the serpent of earth it represented that which destroys, the constant returning to the earthly cycles. In this representation it was reproductive, earth bound and destructive. While for the Egyptians the heavenly Serpent was that which gave man the knowledge to perceive the divine. The Egyptians were well aware that serpents don't fly, but by giving the serpent wings they emphasised the unique difficulty of going beyond the earthly cycles. The shedding of skin was a useful

image for the cycle of eternal re-occurrence, whereby all things repeat until final annihilation or liberation is achieved.

The serpent then could be understood as representing the knowledge of Good and Evil, in its destructive mode it was a symbol of the Demiurge, the false creator. In its heavenly mode it represents the secret knowledge of the light. To achieve this secret knowledge one must transmute the instincts (the dual penis) and the intellect (the forked tongue) as well as going beyond the cycles of ordinary life (the shedding of the skin).

Within the traditions of the Gnostic Apostolic Church the Serpent is used to represent the path of the Pneumatic, the highest Path to the Treasury of Light. In our tradition, as in the Valentinian Gnostic school, there were three grades - the Hylic, Psychic and Pneumatic. The Hylic was that of everyday man, it was sometimes represented by a crawling serpent, the snake of earth. The Hylic was the first creation by the Archons and has no innate spark, he is a creature of instinct and mind and, I am afraid, composes the bulk of humanity. The Psychic was the first path of Salvation and was represented by the Dove. The Psychic is a mixture of light, mind and flesh and is dominated by his lower instincts, he needs the guidance of the Gnostic school to achieve liberation. The secret path was that of the Serpent of Light, the winged Serpent. This path is followed by the Pneumatics, the Parfait or children of the Pleroma. The duality represented by the snake is very expressive, in some ways it hints at the secret techniques used within the higher path. The very things than condemn the Hylic to earth are turned and used to liberate the Pneumatic. The Serpent (and related images such as the snake and dragon) is therefore a expressive image of the nature of the Gnosis. The winged serpent represents the highest wisdom, while the crawling serpent represents the decay of earth. The duality of the snake is the dualism of the Ancient Wisdom.

The Fall of the Lifestreams

The Cosmic Battle that necessitated matter was only the first fall of many. There are clearly two falls if we wish to consider the entry of spirits from the First Estate into matter. The fall of the Lifestreams was the final stage in the degenerative process. Originally the Lifestreams entered the earth sphere and began to examine the fallen

creation of the Archons. In some sense this was their downfall. At this stage the Lifestream was located on a continent near the North Pole and existed in a etheric state. The Lifestreams lived in a pure state untouched by the mixed nature of the lower world as they were in communion with the higher worlds.

> Whoever seeks as a probable location for paradise the heavenliest spot on earth with respect to light and darkness and with respect to celestial scenery, must be content to seek it as the Arctic pole. Here is the true city of the Sun. Here is the one and only spot on earth respecting which it would seem as if the creator has said, as of his own heavenly residence, There shall be no light here.
>
> Paradise Found,
>
> William Warren. (1885).

However, as time progressed Satanel wanted to catch the spirit sparks, he wanted to control and manipulate the Lifestreams. So he created fallen Edens on earth and tempted the spirits from the first estate to enter them and try the physical forms.

> “The son of the King of Darkness spoke to the daughters of darkness.
>
> “He cried: ‘Give me your sons and daughters and I shall make for you a figure of your desire’.
>
> “They brought them and gave them to him
>
> “He ate the female ones and handed over the males to Nekbael, his companion.
>
> “He entered Nekbael.
>
> “Nekbael became pregnant and bore a son named Adam and a daughter named Havva.
>
> “When Adam awoke, he found himself mingled and imprisoned in everything that exists, shackled in the stench of darkness”.
>
> The Flight to Lucifer,
>
> Harold Bloom

As soon as Adam and Eve (as representative of the Lifestreams) took physical forms and entered into the bodies the Archons had created for them, the final stage of the

The Powers of Light, the Static Laws, the Christed Ones.
The Treasury of Light or the Pleroma.

Chasm

The Rulers of this world, the powers of darkness.
The World of the Archons.

Fig 4

fall occurred. Since the Adamic Lifestream were the custodians of all other forms of life, the dominion over the lower spiritual kingdoms also passed over to Satanel and the Archons. The mixed nature of the physical world spread its corruption upwards and the lower astral worlds plummeted into the grasp of the Archons. The Adamic Lifestream in the first estate had been androgynous and reproduced within themselves, now the sexes were split and physical reproduction became necessary. Their etheric-like bodies became physical and they fully entered the mixed world of matter. As time progressed Satanel (who is the Old Testament Yahweh) brought them more and more under his submission with covenants, laws and commandments. The light grew dimmer, a barrier between the Static (Pleroma) and Dialectic kingdoms was formed one that could only be breached through special spiritual practises, the sparks of light within the Lifestreams became lost, disoriented and were now caged in matter.

Mankind had truly fallen...

Static and Dialectic Kingdoms

The spiritual and physical kingdoms became locked in conflict. the Static world of spirit couldn't coexist with the fallen lower kingdoms and a barrier was driven between them. Both kingdoms became self sustained systems containing their own energy fields and immortals. The higher world, the Treasury of Light (Static Kingdom) is our true home where the Lord of Wisdom and the Immortals live. While the fallen kingdom is the world of the Demiurge, Satanel and the fallen Angels. These destructive immortals, known as the Archons, manipulate the lower world and try to stop mankind experiencing the vibrations from the higher worlds.

The Solar Sphere

Contact between the upper and the lower worlds became only possible through an intermediary, the Solar Energy sphere. This is not the physical sun, but the vortex, logos or Centre that works behind it. The problem is that since the lower kingdom is fallen, the solar sphere transmits both pure and fallen vibrations, in practical terms it transmits the Christ energies of Sophia and Logos *and* the Demiurgic forces of the Lower world. (Fig 5). In regards to the forces of light, the energies of the Pleroma use the Solar Spirit as a gateway through which man can be re-awakened. These forces are the Logos and Sophia from the upper worlds, when they are combined within a student of the Gnosis the spark of light within is reawakened and the person becomes Christed. (Fig 6)

At the same time however, it must be remembered, that the sun also transmits the destructive currents of the Demiurge, these must be resisted and controlled if liberation is to be achieved. The Solar sphere is hence the focus of the Aryan mystery traditions, whether it be Apollo, Mithra, Christ, Horus or Ra we can see the secret teachings in application. The Solar sphere itself became a symbol of the hidden mysteries, at rising it is the Logos, at the Height it is the Christ, at its setting it is Sophia. It represents the doorway through which fallen mankind can awaken. The imagery of the Solar sphere is central to our understanding of the technology of the Gnosis. The Sun transmits the forces of Christ (Logos and Sophia) as well as the fallen Demiurgic energies. (Fig 7) These forces control mankind and influence his

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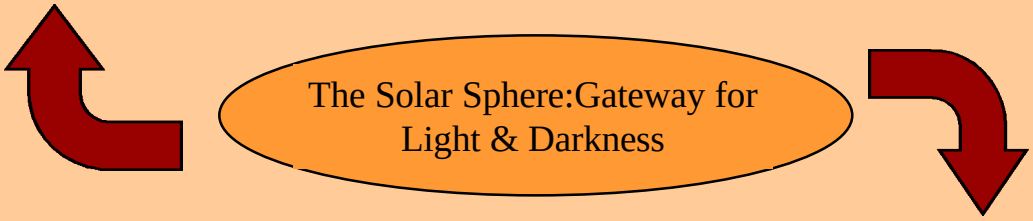
Forces of Light leading to the Static Kingdom

Fig 5



Forces of Darkness leading further into matter and oblivion.

The Static Kingdom, The Treasury of Light

Fig 6

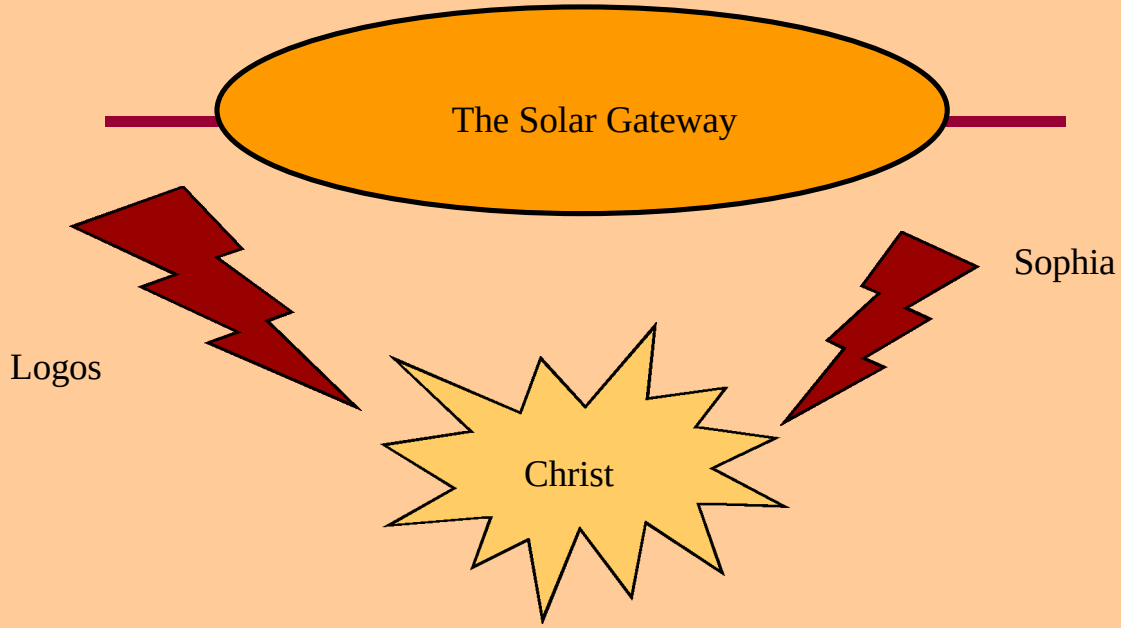
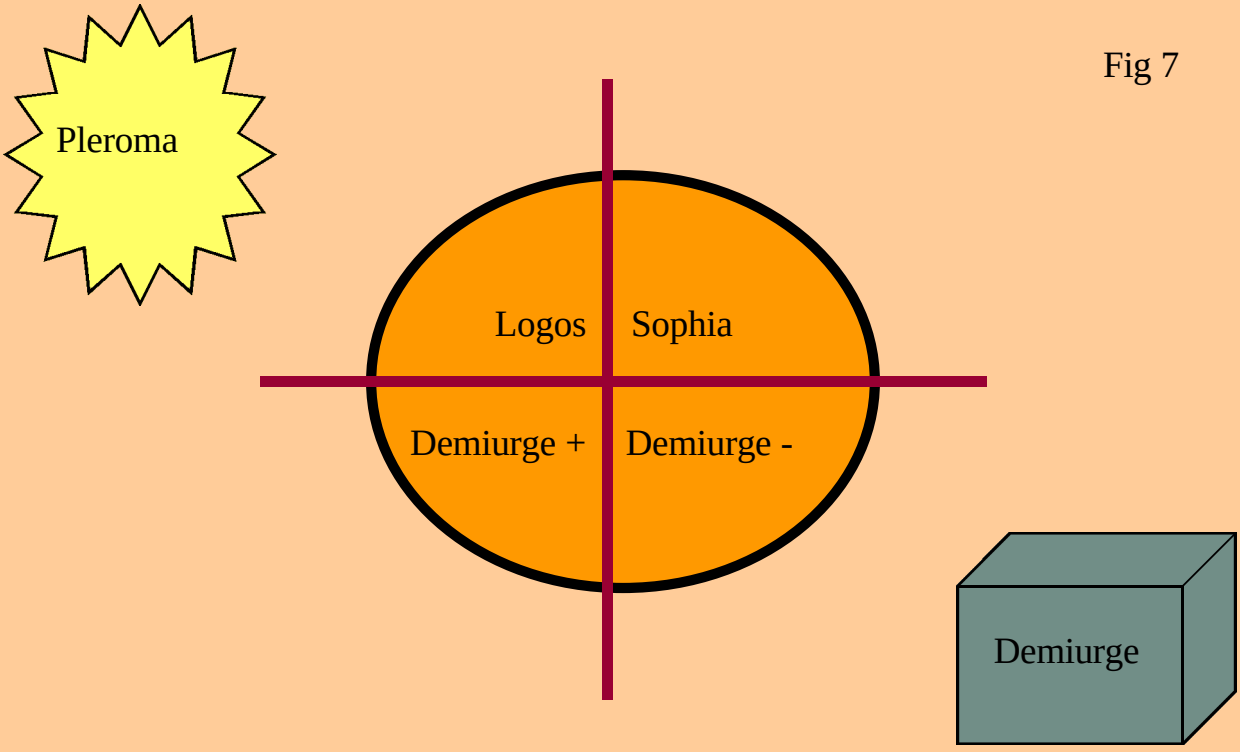


Fig 7

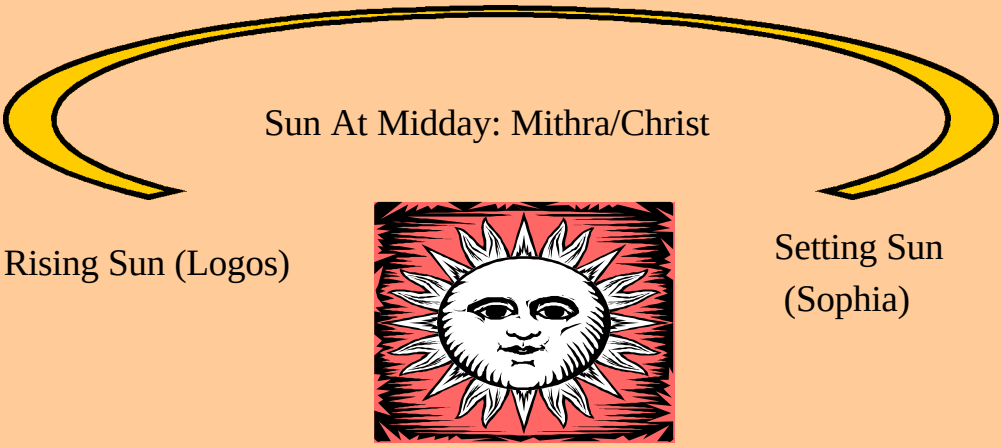


religion, philosophy and way of life. We can hence see in the many sun cultures of the past both destructive and constructive interpretations of solar imagery. For example, the demand for human sacrifice to satisfy the demands of the Sun in Aztec culture obviously marked their loss of Gnosis and domination by the fallen Solar sphere. While the adoration of the three phases of the Sun within the Mithraic tradition helped explain the forces of the Logos, Christ and Sophia. (Fig 8), at the same time too, we can see the destructive and degenerative worship of Mithra in the Caesar Cults of Rome. We must take care when studying these theologies not to confuse positivyt and negativity with good and evil. There is always positive and negative, passive and active, while the duality between the higher powers and the twin poles of the Demiurge is the duality between Good and Evil, Ascension and degradation.

> I am the door: by me if any man enter in, he shall be saved, and shall go in and out, and find pasture.
>
> John 10:9

The importance of the Sun/Son can be found in most Aryan traditions, whether it be Baal in the early traditions of Canaan, Ganesha in Hinduism or the Mithra of the Zoroastrians. He is the intermediary between the Lord of Wisdom and mankind. Mithra is fascinating as there is a certain myth which explains the nature of the Solar sphere with exceptional clarity. While Mithra is seen as a solar God at times he is also seen as a Saturnian God ruling over the Sun and Moon. This is because Saturn was related to Zurvan the supreme God of Time (equivalent to the Lord of Wisdom) and the Logos was related to the Sun and Sophia to the Moon. Hence, while Mithra was a Sun being the Saturnian imagery indicated to the faithful that the Solar sphere was simply Zurvan's presence in the lower world and this is an important truth. The Lord of Wisdom cannot manifest in the lower world due to the fallen nature of the Dialectic kingdoms, accordingly, the Solar sphere becomes the intermediary, the manifestation and the gateway. In some sense this is where the legend of the incarnation or Avatar originated. The belief that God came into the lower worlds is an adaptation or analogy to the process whereby the Lord of Wisdom manifests the currents of Logos and Sophia via the solar sphere into the Dialectic plane. For the Gnostic, Jesus, for example, was Michael, a created being who incarnated and became Christed, he was not God made flesh. There are many other entities who

Fig 8



being Old Souls achieve Christhood and become Son/Suns. In this sense these entities become manifestations of the Sun and hence we can appreciate how the incarnation motif became accepted. However, the anthropomorphic tradition of God actually entering matter as God is a corruption of the Solar mythos and a misunderstanding of the essential Gnosis.

Solar Mythologies

The Solar tradition takes many forms. As can be readily seen from the various mythologies. One adaptation, for example, was for the Logos to be related to the Sun and Sophia to the Moon and this led to a wide range of sexual duality traditions using God and Goddess images. While these are useful in their place it is important to see them as myth only, to worship the Sun or the Moon is to fall into the greatest error and come under the destructive forces of the Demiurge. Since reproduction is only a thing of the lower world and to be avoided by the Gnostic, indeed one of the major points of agreement among the Gnostic cults was the avoidance of reproduction. Images of fertility should only be related with extreme care to the Logos and Sophia. While certainly we can see reproduction as the process of uniting the Logos and Sophia within ourselves and giving birth to a “child self” in the Static kingdom, to allow the tradition to degenerate into nature worship is a great error, indeed the gravest sin. It must always be remembered that the Sun being the gateway to the lower world also transmits the forces of the Demiurge. Hence the solar sphere can destroy as well as heal, corrupt as well as

make whole, this tradition is embodied in many early dualities, for example, Horus and Set of the Ancient Egypt pantheon, the twins of the Sun.

Conclusion

The Sun and all matter is part of a mixed energy field. The lower worlds are a maze of destructive and constructive forces, light and darkness, the potential for liberation and destruction. The forces that emanate through the sun offer the potential for life or death, Ascension or destruction. Like the physical sun, it can heal or hurt, it can scorch the earth or grant it life.

The world is a chess-board on which the battle between light and darkness is played out, the physical world is both a cage and an opportunity for growth. On a practical level we may understand the world as a school or educational facility through which we come to experience the innermost self. Various ideologies and perspectives are played off against each other through many incarnations offering a chance, a glimpse at immortality. This does not occur naturally as the sparks of light (our Selves) are caught in matter and hence the transition to Godhood is difficult. We must study hard and apply what we learn so that we can graduate to the higher worlds. The Dialectic kingdom is hence a cage, a battlefield and a school and only a few learn to use it to advantage

> Because strait is the gate, and narrow is the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it.
>
> **Matthew 7:14**

Chapter Three
Worlds and Planes

Introduction

We have discussed the division that exists between the Dialectic and Static Worlds and how it was caused. Now, we need to develop our paradigm further by realising that the division of the universe into only two distinct kingdoms is in some sense an oversimplification. While certainly the energy fields can be divided into Static and Dialectic types, there is far more to our universe than a simple dualistic division. The various dimensions that exist can be understood as planes, dimensions, realities, locales or worlds, depending on what perspective you may wish to take. The Gnostic tradition tends to use two classifications when structuring the universe, a sevenfold system (derived from the Rosicrucian traditions) and an older fourfold system (derived from the Kabbalah). Both interlock and work well in combination. Together these systems illustrate the multi-faceted nature of reality, the earth is only the base plane from which other realities are hidden. There can be many views of such a structure, ranging from alternative universes, dimensions or planes to other realities, each has its place in our understanding.

In relation to the nature of the division between the Static and Dialectic Worlds, the Great Chasm is located within the Angelic Worlds (Yetzirah) or between the Desire and Thought Planes. This division is clear in Yetzirah for this is the location where in legend, a third of the Angels fell with Lucifer with the result being the fall of the Lower Yetzirahic World and the Physical plane into the confines of matter. The Rest of Yetzirah and the World of Briah are clearly Static. The lower worlds have certainly been effected by the fall (Kabbalistically this is seen as when Tiphareth fell on the Tree and Daath or the Abyss took its place.). They are mixed dimensions where forces of light and darkness intermingle and do battle. Even if we accept that the descriptions of Gods, archangels and Angels may be archaic, they can still be considered symbolic of other, more refined life streams which operate within the higher worlds beyond the physical plane. To get a more comprehensive picture we should discuss each plane in detail.

The Divine Plane

This is the point of origin, the matrix from which all universal systems evolve. It is the plane of Kether in the Kabbalah and on a more tangible level, the dimension from which the Lord of Wisdom and the Elohim operate. This is the goal for those on the Celestial Path.

The Plane of Virgin Spirits

This is also known as the Monadic Plane. From this plane the True Self (Yechidah) or the Pneumatic Light Self operates in the present cycles, though in most of humanity it is in embryonic form only. In the cycles of creation this is the plane from which polarisation and differentiation originated. It is on this level that the Seven Holy Spirits operate and direct creation.

The Divine Plane and the Plane of the Virgins Spirits are equivalent to the World of Atziluth in the Kabbalistic Fourfold structure.

Primary.	The Seven Planes. (Rosicrucian).	Four Worlds of the Kabbalah. (with Traditional Lifeforms).	
Static.	Divine Plane.	Atziluth.	Lord of Wisdom.
Static.	Plane of Virgin Spirits.	Atziluth.	Gods.
Static.	Plane of Divine Spirit.	Briah.	Arch Angels.
Static.	Plane of Life Spirit.	Briah.	Arch Angels.
Static.	Plane of Thought.	Yetzirah.	Angels
Mixed Systems			
Static.	Desire Plane.	Yetzirah.	Angels.
Static	Physical World.	Assiah.	Human Spirits.
Dialectic.	Desire Plane.	Yetzirah.	Archons.
Dialectic.	Physical World.	Assiah.	Fallen Angels

Fig 9

The Plane of Divine Spirit

This plane is also known as the Spiritual Plane. It is the plane of archetypal forms and is the location from which energies from the upper planes are condensed and radiated into the lower. This is the plane on which the Immortals exist. This is the goal for those on the Terrestrial Path.

The Plane of the Life Spirit

This plane is also known as the Intuitional Plane. It is the dimension where the forces and archetypes take creative solidity and manifest. On a human level, it is the dimension of high level intuition and cosmic awareness.

The Plane of the Divine Spirit and the Plane of the Life Spirit are equivalent to the Kabbalistic world of Briah.

The Plane of Thought

This is also known as the Mental Plane. Here the flood of energy takes the form of reason and thought, blueprints are formulated and laid.

The Desire Plane

The Desire plane is also known as the Emotional or Astral Plane. In some traditions it is also seen as the reflective sphere or Astral light. It is a dangerous dimension for the division between the upper and lower worlds is created in its upper reaches and hence much of the Desire plane is fully under Dialectic control. The division between the Thought and Desire Plane is not as clear as it seems and intermingling occurs between them both, the lower reaches of both planes are Dialectally controlled.

The Planes of Thought and Desire are equivalent to the Kabbalistic World of Yetzirah.

The Physical Plane

The lowest plane is the Kabbalistic World of Assiah, the fallen world of Matter.

When we start to consider the nature of these planes and the forces in them as well as their place in the scheme of things, we need to consider our understanding of the nature of Deity and ask the obvious question....

Are there Many Gods ?

Since the particles of light, which some see as Sophia, are locked within the prison of nature and since nature has innumerable forms, then we may consider all forms of nature, plant, animal and human have some quotient or potential for light. This does not mean that all forms of nature or humanity have a Lightspark. Most of humanity, for example, fall into the Hylic category and while they have a certain quotient of light which invigorates their physical and mental forms, they do not have a true, independent self and indeed, cannot have. All forms of matter are mixtures of light and darkness, the darkness tends to predominant in the lower realms, but the light is still present. For the moment, let us focus on the light found within the fallen world and consider its implications. It could be construed that all things are divine in the sense that their divinity is potential rather than actual. That is to say, they are divine in that the particles of light are within them, but are not divine in their own right. It could also be said, using the same argument, that all things are demonic, Accordingly, the presence of light in an entity, whether it be human, vegetable, mineral or from beyond does not grant it Aeonic status nor give any it semblance of divinity.
There are obviously entities, perhaps millions in number which reflect the multifaceted nature of the universe. Just as human life is varied, spiritual entities are varied, all are a mixture of light and darkness.

The issue of Gods and spiritual beings is more complex, however, than it first seems. Since man is by nature a fearful creature, many Gods are artificial and created out of that fear and insecurity. Such Gods and deities are hence real in a psychological sense but lack linkage to the Static world and therefore tend to work in destructive and neurotic ways. The degeneration of God-images in Judaism and Christianity can be clearly seen with the replacement of real spiritual forms with psychologically

projected (neurotic) forms. The difference between these is important and can be readily illustrated. Take for example, a historical figure. After his death we have the facts about the historical figure (the thing in itself) and perceptions of that figure. After a period of time we may even have conflicting perceptions of this figure and hence have X number of differing perceptions. This process may continue and schools may develop around these perceptions with people pouring emotions and feelings into "their perception" of this figure. The end result is a series of artificial mind forms (called Eggregores or in a more scientific term Memes) in the lower astral regions (reflective sphere) which have little or no connection with the original historical figure. These forms are then fed and utilised by the Dominions and Principalities (Archons) which populate this plane.

So, from one historical figure we have ended up with..

1. *The Historical figure.* *(The Thing in Itself).*
2. *Different perceptions of that figure* *(Archetypes).*
3. *Eggregores or artificial energy forces created of that figure.*

(For example, we may have a Catholic Jesus, a Gnostic Jesus, a Protestant Jesus, a New Age Jesus etc.).

Psychologically projected forms (Archetypes) are not, by necessity, destructive. They can be ways in which the higher worlds work to awaken man. However, it must be understood that there is an immense difference between the forms of the mind and those of the universe itself, between Archetypes and Gods. In some cases there can even be many distinct forms of one deity, for example, we have the Jesus of history and the neurotic and twisted form of Jesus created by the Church, both exist and both, in some sense, are real. One is of immense Static power and the other of great dialectic power. One leads from the lower worlds into the Static Kingdom, the other perpetuates the Dialectic cycle. When two such images become confused, personal mental components can be transfixed into external deities and these, by necessity, being out of place, can turn sour and become neurotic and highly destructive. As can be readily seen the study of the Spiritual forms of our universe is a complex matter. Since the fall of man everything is not what it seems,

the population of the spiritual worlds range from Angelic (Static Beings), to artificially created Eggregores, from Elementals and Nature Spirits (Neither Good or evil, but like man having a potential for both) to Demonic or Dialectic forces. To fully understand the overall structure in relation to the worlds and those who populate them we need to consider the nature of the Spiritual Hierarchy.

The Spiritual Hierarchy

To understand the spiritual hierarchy we must first give you some background on one of the major strands within the Gnostic tradition, the Kabbalah. It is said that the Lord of Wisdom first communicated the Kabbalah to Moses and transmitted to him the mysteries of the the Ten Sephiroth of the Tree of Life. However, since Israel rejected these ten words, Moses made a covenant with the Archon Yahweh and he gave them a fallen, physical version in the form of the Ten Commandments. The Kabbalah is a western ideological structure that outlines the nature of the Universe, God and man. It was originally taught in Ancient Sumeria, Canaan and Israel and was passed in oral form down through the ages. The actual term Kabbalah means, " ear to lips " and refers to the oral tradition of Gnosticism. It was only at a later date that we find written records of the Kabbalistic teachings. The original Kabbalah is a very important part of the Gnostic Arcanum, however, we must take care to distance these esoteric teachings from such modern corruption's as Jewish Mysticism and Zionist Kabbalism. The Kabbalah is the product of the Mystery School of Israel (the Aryan Gnostic School) and is strikingly different from the modern Jewish and Christian traditions.

The Kabbalah is exceptionally valuable as it offers us a framework onto which we can posit our perceptions, experiences and understandings as we develop through the Gnostic path. The actual technology of the Kabbalah centres on a structure called the *Tree of Life* (Fig 10/11), this is composed of ten centres called Sephiroth which are formed in a mathematical progression from point, to line, to triangle to pyramid. These Sephiroth are linked by twenty two lines called Paths. To these thirty two locales are attributed a wide range of symbolism including the Planets, which are attributed to the Sephiroth and Twenty two letters of Hebrew alphabet, which are attributed to the Paths. The Tarot is also linked directly to the Tree of Life by the twenty two Arcanum being attributed to the Paths and the other cards being

attributed through the centres. The importance of such attributions is that they offer us an insight into how everything links together and forms an interdependent energy grid of life. The Gnostic tradition hence upholds the Kabbalah and Tree of Life as suitable frameworks for understanding the nature of man and the universe. In our earlier discussion on the planes we discussed the four world model of the Kabbalah. The attribution of the four world model to the Tree of Life can be made in two distinct manners. The first is to divide the tree into sections - three triangles and the point below. While the second places a separate tree in each world. In each attribution one can see how a hierarchy of spiritual powers may evolve and develop.

In Figures 10 there are listed the basic attributions for the Sephiroth, the Arch Angelic World, the Planets of the physical world (Assiah) and some Gnostic attributions. These are traditional definitions from the Hermetic school of Kabbalah. These basic attributions should shed at least some light on the system and the way in which information is filed and categorised. These attributions vary from Gnostic cult to Gnostic cult. In our tradition, Michael (later Jesus) was the first created son of God or Arch-Angel and has primacy overall the other nine since he achieved full Pleromic state (God-hood) as the others cannot.

In Figure 10 we have outlined a Gnostic Tree of Life with the various Solar attributions to give you an idea of how the Solar tradition may be related back to the Kabbalistic structure. You can easily see in this series of attributions how one energy can be applied in many different ways. For example, Sophia as Agape, Sophia as Eros and so forth. This leads to the fact that many thousands of attributions can be added to these basic examples, many varying according to perspective, understanding and tradition. If we calculate the potentials within the system we can end up having four worlds each with a selection of forces in each, Ten major and twenty two minor. Obviously we can go even further and interpret these as classes in their own right and hence a whole inter-penetrating network of forces can be uncovered. From this we can clearly see how behind the Dialectic world there are many other dimensions perhaps even more real than our own reality from which we are separated due to the Chasm created by the Fall. Only by entering the Path of Transfiguration can we be so transformed that we may enter these inner worlds.

Some Basic Kabbalistic Attributions...

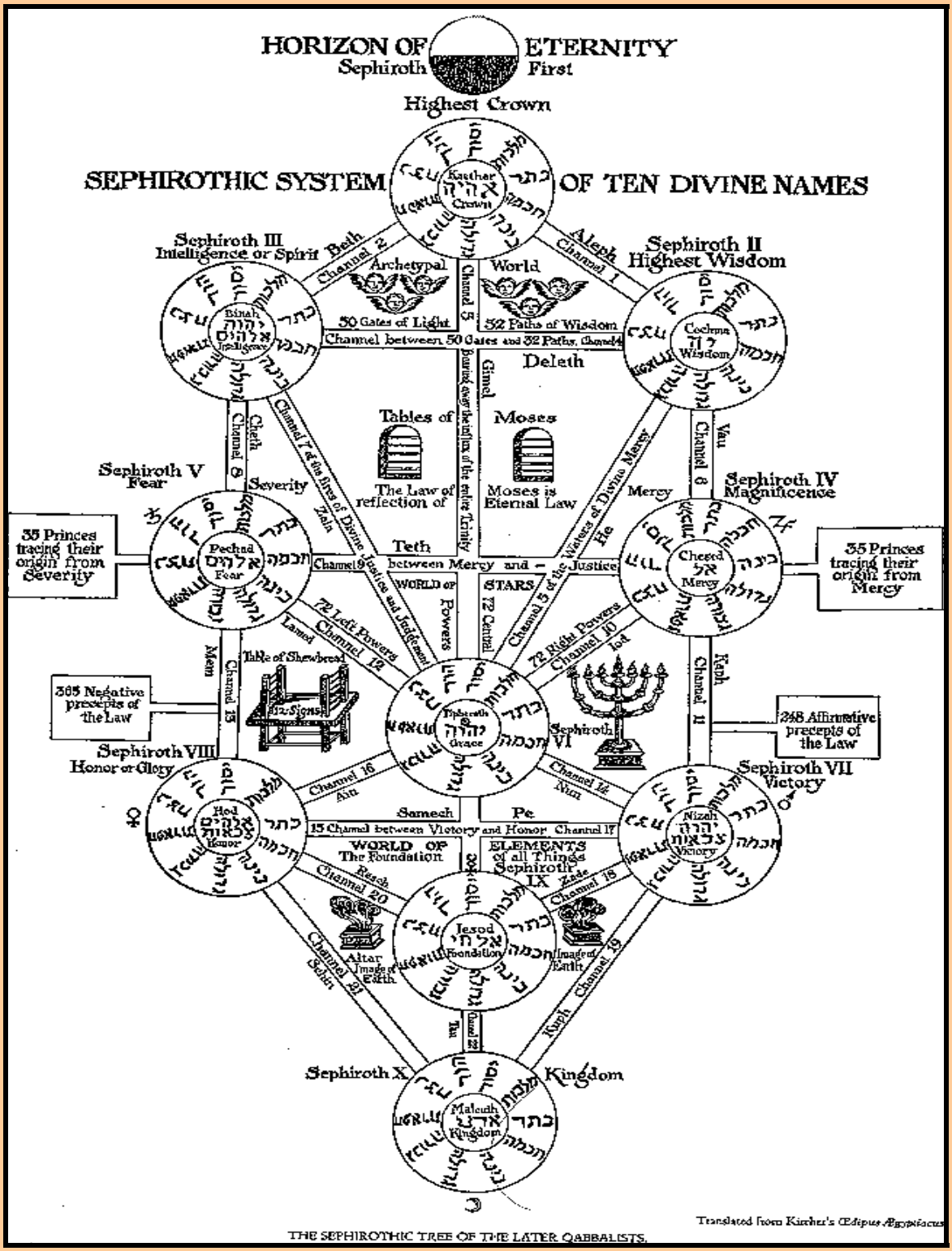
Title.	Arch-Angelic World.	Physical World.
Kether.	Metraton.	Pluto.
Binah.	Tzaphquiel.	Saturn.
Chokmah.	Raziel.	Neptune.
Geburah.	Kamael.	Mars.
Chesed.	Zadquiel.	Jupiter.
Tiphareth.	Raphael.	Sun.
Hod	Michael.	Mercury.
Netzach.	Haniel.	Venus.
Yesod.	Gabriel.	Moon.
Malkuth.	Sandalphon.	Earth

The Gnostic Hierarchy (Solar Tradition)

Kether.	Lord of Wisdom.	
Chokmah.	Sophia.	
Binah.	Logos.	
Chesed.	Sophia as Agape.	
Geburah.	Logos as Thelema.	
Tiphareth.	Solar Doorway (Christ). Logos as Solar Deity.	
Hod.	Logos as Gnosis.	
Netzach.	Sophia as Eros.	
Yesod.	Reflection of Sol.	Sophia as Lunar Deity.
Malkuth.	Earth.	

Fig 10

Figure 11.The Tree of Life.



Cosmic Cycles

The Yugas

History is a record of degeneration. Since the earliest times man has been sinking deeper and deeper into the mire of matter. This view is not popular with the materialists and exoteric priests of our culture, but is nevertheless a core esoteric truth. In his work “The Reign of Quantity and the Signs of the Times”, Rene Guenon succinctly outlines the process of spiritual degeneration. As man thinks he is evolving, he is simply accelerating his own destruction - living standards and technology may advance, but only at the cost of spirit. This metaphysical entropy causes matter to become successively more physical, more solid, and on a spiritual level - more malefic. Society becomes centred on collectives (witness the New World Order), rather than on nations and individuals, and there is an emphasis on scientific advances rather than simplicity. As we reach the later phases of this degeneration (the present period), anti-traditions and forms of anti-gnosis arise purporting to be of spiritual value. The most dangerous aspect of this process is how, in the darkest age, fissures will appear in the barrier between the physical world and the lower astral planes, and there will be an intrusion of the malefic inhabitants of this inferior subtle domain. While the Aeons (at least the positive mode) are emanating energies which give mankind an opportunity for growth, the Yugas chart his degeneration and destruction. In some sense the Aeons are cycles of manifestation and opportunity, while the Yugas as cycles of reality.

This process of degeneration is codified in the early Vedic system by dividing history into four ages or Yugas. The Sanskrit names for the four ages are Krita or Satya Yuga, Treta Yuga, Dvapara Yuga and Kali Yuga. These can also be correlated to the Greek historical tradition as the ages of Gold, Silver, Bronze and Iron. The Krita Yuga is the Golden Age, the age of Spirit and from there things get successively worse until the Kali age, which ends in an apocalypse of water and fire. Each age in succession is shorter than it predecessor, is more intense, and more material. The Kali age is the shortest, most materialist and intensely destructive. It is this age we are in now....

The Great Year

The concept of precession is central to the cycle known as the Great or Platonic Year. It is based on the simple fact that the earth does not “sit straight”, there is a slight wobble in the earth’s axis as it spins. Accordingly the North Pole describes a circle taking 2590 years to reach the point at which it started. As this process unfolds the Vernal Equinox is seen to move backwards through the signs. This backwards movement starts at Capricorn and nnds at Aquarius, the reverse of the normal yearly cycle. Many have argued that it was Hipparchus in the second century BCE who discovered this, however there is clear evidence that it was known far earlier to the Mayans and Egyptians.

This cycle is the basis of many different systems of mythology, De Santillana and Von Dechend argue in “Hamlets Mill” that the “Great Year” may indeed be the basis for most cosmological systems. The Gnostic tradition suggests that this great cycle was known to the Atlanteans and was encoded into the rituals and architecture of Ancient Egypt. Accordingly, the role of the Pharaoh and later the priesthood had a special significance in relation to the unfolding of the great year.

The central focus of Egyptian ritualism was the Great Pyramid, it was connected to the Sphinx and operated as a initiatory structure. The Pyramid was identified with the Sanctuary of the Sun and embodied Ra, the Solar Logos. The rites undertaken in the Chamber of the King and Queen were rites of rebirth whereby the Pharaoh became identified with the Solar Sphere. He mediated the energies of the Logos and hence accelerated the positive current and sublimated or transformed the negative. The Sun like the planets and zodiac was a doorway between the spiritual and physical worlds and hence emanated forces from the Pleroma and from the worlds of the Archons.

During the rite of rebirth the Pharaoh left his body and traveled through the heavens. He journeyed through the realms of the planets and zodiac using passwords, gestures and codes, only after successfully passing the spheres could he then navigate through the great barrier and enter the Pleroma. This ritual form was connected to the Egyptian astro-Gnosis and involved the Pharaoh becoming the mediator for his people. In this role he also prepared Egypt for the change which took place at the “Equinox of the Gods”, when one astrological sign gave way to another. For 180

years before this event the Pharaoh and priesthood would work creating new symbols, mythologies and astral vessels so that the incoming energy could be utilized for the benefit of Egypt.

As time progressed the Egyptian Star-Gnosis, the Divine rite of Rebirth and the secret of Planetary and Zodiacal mediation was passed from the Pharaoh to a separate priesthood. With time and changes in both state and religion, the teachings were held under oath by secret orders and brotherhoods. Even within the Hermetic Order of the Golden Dawn we can find elements of the mediation rite within its equinox rituals, however, the emphasis has changed to emanating the forces only for those linked to the Order and hence joined to its eggregore. As we head further into the Kali Yuga it is the individuals task to use and transform the heavenly energies within him or herself.

It is important to realize that Energies the Zodiac like those of the Planets are ambivalent, they receive and relay forces of both positive and negative nattier. In a more medieval context, they are said to possess both Spirits and Intelligences. The Gnostic tradition has always been unsure of astrology and see the heavenly forces as energies which must be reckoned with, not Gods to be worshipped.

The present change of cycle is that movement from Pisces to Aquarius, while there is some variation in the dating it is generally accepted that Aquarius will dawn around 2024 with some margin of error. (Astrologers fluctuate the dating of the age of Aquarius from between the year 2000 to around 2100). At the change of each sign there is much transformation, for example, the change from Aries to Pisces at approximately 6 BCE triggered a wide range of spiritual manifestations. It would be possible to link Zoroaster, Gautama Buddha and Jesus/James all into the nexus of the movement from Aries to Pisces. Indeed the imagery of Pisces as the fish has much in common with Jesus and early Christianity. In Egyptian mythology Horus is also sometimes seen as the fisherman. There are many ways to image the astrological ages, in one Egypt tradition Isis is related to Taurus, Osiris to Aries, Horus to Pisces and Maat to Aquarius. The start of the Pyramid age was linked to Leo and many believe that the Sphinx was carefully ligned to the image of Leo at the horizon, while it forms embodied the Priestess of Virgo and the form of the Lion as it

represented the change from one astrological age to the next (Virgo to Leo).

The Platonic year is 25,920 years long and hence each sign cover 2160 years. Each of these signs can be further sub-divided into minor precessional cycles, each of which is 180 years long. In each astrological age the first minor cycle is of the same characteristic as that of the greater, hence in Pisces, the first minor cycle of 180 years was that of Pisces of Pisces. The last age of the minor cycle is important as it is preparation for the changeover to the next age. This cycle is known as the "Equinox of the Gods", in the present cycle (Pisces), is began in 1844 and is ruled by Aries.

In the Egyptian initiatory traditions this period was also known as the Heraldic cycle, it was the period in which the priesthood prepared the symbolism, legends and vessels for the influx of energy which would occur at the changeover to the new cycle. The cycle itself encompasses four different co-ordinates, these can be related to the four letters of the divine name (YHVH), the four elements, the four Canopic Jars of mummification and the four phases of the Temple. (Fig 12)

Heraldic Cycle	Element	God- Name	Pisces Year
Initiation	Fire	Yod	1844
Transmission	Air	He	1904
Consolidation	Water	Vau	1964
Manifestation	Earth	He	2024

Horus Son	Head	Neter	Contents	Direction
Duamutef	Jackal	Neith	Stomach	North
Qebsennuf	Hawk	Selkit	Intestines	South
Hapi	Baboon	Nephthys	Lungs	East
Amset	Man	Isis	Liver	West

Fig 12

Probably the most expressive image of the four elements of the Heraldic cycle are seen reflected in Egyptian Temple architecture. The general style of Egyptian Temples includes a Great Court, Vestibule, Hypostyle Hall and the Great Seat. This design was later adapted into what became the Israelite Sanctuary and Kings Solomon's Temple.

In general, the Egyptian Temple was surrounded by a massive wall of mud-brick. This wall isolated the Temple from it surroundings, which symbolically represented the forces of Chaos. Metaphorically the mud resulted from the union of heaven and earth. The brick wall itself was therefore set in wavy courses to symbolize the primeval waters, representing the first stage of creation.

> The exterior walls of the Temple resembled a fortress, so as to defend it against all forms of evil. The Temple was entered through two pylons, beyond which lay an open court. This court sometimes had colonnades along the sides and an altar in the middle. Next, along the temple-axis came the hypostyle, a pillared hall often surrounded by small rooms which are used for the storage of Temple equipment and for other secondary purposes. Finally, there was the sanctuary, which was a dark room containing the shrine, where the figure of the Neter was placed. The sanctuary's doors were shut and sealed all year long and were open only for the great festivals. The Sanctuary was called the Great Seat.
>
> Historical Deception: The Untold Story of Ancient Egypt
>
> Moustafa Gadalla
>
> Bastet Publishing, 1996.

The Temple symbolized the fourfold process which took place both within the Heavens and the activity taken by the priesthood in their ritual activities. It has a specific application within our description of the process of cosmic mediation in the Heraldic cycle. If you telescope the imagery you could image a High Priest moving through the stages of the Temple, each stage representing a period of activity in which the priesthood has been working and preparing. As he completes each stage it would represent a aspects of the Heraldic period, only at the moment

of the movement from one age to the next would he enter the Sanctuary and transit the energies to the priesthood and to Egypt.

To fully appreciate the Heraldic cycle as it leads towards Aquarius, we should examine the four dates at the climax of Pisces. From 18444 to 21024 we have the Piscean Heraldic cycle ruled by the sign of Aries. Aries is ruled by the planet Mars and hence this suggests the violent and martial tone that Pisces, which is assigned the Egyptian God Horus, has taken in this last age. While Pisces is water, Aries is Fire and hence we have the interaction of Will and Emotion, while Pisces distributes power, Aries generates it and hence the combination of these powers brings great changes.

The attribution of Horus to Pisces is controversial and will raise the hackles of the disciples of Aliester Crowley who believe the Aeon of Horus began with his revelation in 1904.I do not aim to debate the Gnostic versus Thelemite position here, the linked document will cover that in some detail if you want further information. The classic Gnostic position is to align Isis with Taurus, Taurus being the earth goddess, Osiris is assigned to Aries and it the imagery of the sacrifice of rams to the Father God are throughout that period. Horus is Pisces, the imagery is related to Jesus as the Fisherman, the ocean of mankind, the fish as Christian symbols is also founder as a symbol of Horus as Fisherman. Horus as a semi-solar image is found throughout religions of that period, Christianity representing the misapplication of Horus to become a violent martial force. Maat is Aquarius, the outpouring of truth and Gnosis.

The first date in our Heraldic cycle is 1844, it is the initiation whereby the process of change from Pisces to Aquarius began. There are many other hidden indicators of this date, in the Biblical tradition there are specific prophecies that focus on this date. The 2300 year prophecy of the cleansing of the Sanctuary, began in 457 BCE with the declaration of Artaxeres to restore Jerusalem and ended in 1844. The prophecy focused on the Solar Sanctuary and the climax of it is when the sanctuary is transformed when the priest enters the innermost realm (the sacred Seat). Some references include Daniel 8:14 and 9:25. The 2520 (7 Times) Prophecy focused on the loss of the Ten Tribes of Israel to history and the description of their

re-awakening to the Gnosis started in 1844. This period is also known as the time of the Gentiles and is referenced in Leviticus 26 and under the guise of the prophecy of the seven times.

1844 as a trigger point for the Heraldic cycle is also interesting as many religions view this as an important date, the Millerites of the period preached throughout American that Jesus was returning and a great disappointment occurred due to a misunderstanding of this prophecy. Modern groups deriving from the Adventists including Seventh Day Adventists and Branch Davidians continue to believe that this date was significant and teach that in 1844 Jesus entered the “Holy of Holies” in the Israelite Temple and began an investigative judgement of the Dead. During the period from 1844 to an unspecified date the Angels of the Book of Revelation will unveil their messages and mankind will go through great tribulations heading towards the Second Coming of Jesus. This theology while in a language different from the Egyptian Heraldic cycle is basically identical. The energy of Christ can be related to the Solar force which meditates the astrological cycles and hence we can easily relate the quasi-Christian imagery to the esoteric tradition.

1904 as the transmission period of the heraldic cycle certainly is expressive. Aliester Crowley declared that in 1904 Aiwass, a being he claimed was a secret Chief or master, revealed that a new age was dawning. The matter is made more complex as Crowley interpreted this to mean that the Aeon of Horus had began in 1904. However, from a Gnostic perspective this is unlikely. The Aeon of Horus was the Age of Pisces and Crowley had experienced a further transmission of the energy which was becoming Aquarius. At the same time this energy re-stated much of the teachings of the Solar Tradition since it had become garbled through the ages. However, since this knowledge was filtered through Crowley’s unconscious, difficulties arise. The current of 93 he outlined is the Piscean current, Agape (Love), Thelema (Will) and Logos (word) all are aspects of it and 93 reduces to 12 - the Zodiac and of course the twelve disciples, twelve being the sacred number of completion within Biblical numerology. There are many difficulties as Crowley disciples transformed his Gnostic vision into a counter culture cult. (See Link for further discussion of this in the article Gnosis, Crowley and Thelema). The relevance is in Crowley declaration of the revelation. Further

activity of this period include Jehovah's Witnesses who still believe Jesus returned (in spirit) during this period (1914 in some groups but the dates vary). Many other denominations also follow this revelation, so the acceleration of the current certainly has resonance among many traditions. The World Wars that occurred during this period could also be considered ramifications of mankind fighting against the transformation current and the Counter-Gnosis moving into the political dimension. As the energies change the activities of the Dominions and Principalities intensify.

1964 was the consolidation of the current in the sense that it as the energies accelerated society was pushed to the limit. The result being the opening up of the collective psyche which brought about every possible extreme, politically, sexually, emotional and spiritually. The Counter-Gnosis intensified and became dominant in both fundamentalism and the syncretism of the New Age. However, other discoveries such as the Dead Sea Scrolls and Nag Hammadi library came into effect in this period and gave rise to the Gnostic revival that continues till this day.

2024 is the approximate date for the manifestation of Aquarius. However, do not expect it to be all love and light. Aquarius is ruled by Saturn or Uranus, depending on whether you use the modern attributions. Saturn is both the Demiurge and the divine purifier, Uranus is the lord of the Abyss or great barrier between the Pleroma and the lower world. Aquarius will be an age of great ferocity, violence and terror as well as growth and transfiguration for those who seek the light. One of the images associated with Aquarius is the Peacock. The peacock was the sacred image of the Yeizidi, a Islamic people who followed an ancient Gnostic religious tradition. The Peacock was Melek Taus who can be related to the Demiurge, but at the same time the eyes of the peacock (Eye=Ayin in Hebrew, the Devil Tarot Card) show us that ultimately the Demiurge has no power, no light and hence the real source is beyond in the real ultimate source of Ain, the Lord of Wisdom, the Invisible spirit. Even dualism will be resolved at the limax of the Kali Yuga.

Chapter Four: The Conflict Between Matter and Spirit

> What a tragic world this is, he reflected. Those down here are prisoners, and the ultimate tragedy is that they don't know it; they think they are free because they never have been free, and do not understand what it means. *This is a prison*, and few men have guessed. But I know, he said to himself. Because that is why I am here. To burn the walls, to tear down the metal gates, to break each chain. Thou shalt not muzzle the Ox as he treadeth out the corn, he thought, remembering the Torah.
>
> **The Divine Invasion, Phillip K Dick.**
>
> **HarperCollins 1981.**

The material world is not what it seems, most religions teach that matter is the creation of God and a reflection of its/his/her beauty. Indeed, many go as far as to suggest that the world is the body of the divine, even perhaps divinity itself. It is interesting to consider that the belief that the material world is good is now accepted as a "point in common" between modern religious denominations, who may beyond this point disagree on everything else. The bizarre aspect of this is that most early religions had the opposite opinion, the belief that matter is good and a creation of a good God is relatively modern. In some sense, it could be considered the ultimate heresy. When we go back to the earlier faiths we have a general agreement that matter is destructive, contrary to spiritual values and the creation of a lesser being, in most cases a rebellious or evil one. Depending on the religion, this creation may be seen as a error in the divine mind, the rebellion of an angel or even a battle between the gods. However, the truth behind the iconography is remarkable similar. One seems to get the impression that as time progressed and man fell deeper into the mire of matter, spiritual wisdom became lost and man's mind became more and more clouded. Accordingly, the old truth regarding the nature of matter was forgotten and a more 'materialistic' revelation was accepted. As new faiths evolved,

the old ones were demonised and their doctrines declared as heretical. An excellent example is the battle between the faith of the Magi and the Zarasthustrian tradition, while both are dualist, Zarathustrianism accepts matter as a positive force, while Magianism declares it to be the creation of a fallen one. Time and time again we find the old creation tale replaced by a more convenient and some would say, destructive, myth. While there is great divergence in the mythology and imagery of the original creation story, the points of agreement were: the act of creating was by a lesser being (or force), the creation of matter was an error, matter works in a way contrary to spirit and that philosophies which worship the earth (or indeed believe that creation is good) are false religions created to enslave mankind.

The Descent into Matter

There are many ways we can interpret the original creation myth. One Gnostic sect taught that Satanel created the physical world and that only when Yahweh saw the pitiful forms that Satanel had formed did he have pity on them and hence breath life into them. The Mandeans went much further and in their secret texts describe how the fornication of demons brought about the creation of Adam from a mixture of their polluted fluids. On a more philosophical level, we may consider the Kabbalistic belief that the divine light cast a reflection which shattered the “crystal” of creation and gave birth to the Qlippoth, or evil ones. While in the Greek mystery tradition suggested that a crisis occurred in the lower reaches of the divine hierarchy when Sophia attempted to create without the power of first principle. In many traditions the animosity of the creator varies, in the works of the Hermetics the Demiurge is still seen as a lesser being but is more ambiguous, in some traditions he is an obedient servant, in others a rebellious outcast. Regardless of how the creation myth is depicted the general thrust is that the material creation takes place via a lesser member of the hierarchy and that this creation is generally considered to be destructive. The entry of souls (or lightsparks) into this creation varies from tradition to tradition, some see Yahweh as breathing life into the pitiful forms created by Satanel, while others, such as the Mandeans, see the lightsparks entrapped into matter by nefarious plots and schemes. The emphasis in these traditions is on light being trapped in matter, even caged by it. Matter is a prison and a cage which over time becomes more and more restrictive. As matter evolved and developed, spirit as its contrary, becomes more and more restricted. As the fallen material forms cannot

contain the essence of the light world, then mankind slumbers, rambling from life to life with little wisdom. Opportunities for awakening are few and far between and only a small minority will accept the challenge, for to awaken means to revolt against the whole earthly system. The spiritual path to the 'Treasury of Light' is a path which is diametrically opposed to the normal evolutionary processes of matter and technology. In the Old Testament we read that Cain is the father of cities and Urban life and that the 'Watchers' who took 'daughters of men' are the creators of science and technology. This is emphasised again in the legend of the Tower of Babel where Yahweh destroys those who attempt to use earthly technology to reach the world of the Gods. Clearly in these legends and myths the underlying message is that the materialistic traditions of science, technology and earthly knowledge are opposed and contrary to the wisdom (Gnosis) of the Light worlds.

The Aim of Matter

If we accept the Gnostic paradigm that matter is contrary to spirit then we need to reflect on the aim of matter and what technological evolution is all about. I do not aim to get into a discussion on the fact or fiction of Darwinian evolution, there are many different interpretations and so many debates, both theological and scientific, that it is impossible to make a judgement on the actual form physical evolution takes. For our purposes it is enough to suggest that man on a material level evolves - this can include ideological, technological and even perhaps physical development. In some sense the details are fairly irrelevant to our discussion. If we see that matter aims at creating better matter, technology, better technology and so on, then we can start to see how contrary matter really is to spiritual realities. If the ultimate goal of the genetic structure of mankind is to create better and better physical specimens, then this will in the end contradict the need for intelligence and mind, since natures goal is only to create physical perfection. It cannot and does not include an understanding of creativity and the higher reaches of intelligence. We may argue that the intelligence potential of humanity comes from the struggle of the light particles against the physical prison, without this struggle man would simply be an animal or ape with limited intelligence.

Reproduction is the means by which physical evolution occurs. Both the male and female are manipulated by the natural genetic program, in the male, the primary

drives are fight, flight or fuck (the three F's), there is little room for improvisation or creativity. The inherent violence of the male of the species is encouraged by the female, whose genetic structure requires that she finds the best mate at any cost. This sounds harsh and even sexist, but is nevertheless very true. Feminists argue about the inherent violence of the male but do not consider how female behaviour, especially in regards to finding the 'perfect mate' encourages and even controls the violence of the male. The natural process of flirting and men competing to gain a female has a violent sub-tone which is controlled and manipulated by the genetic desire of the women who wishes for the best possible offspring. Incest, rape, violence and war may be seen as originating from the common source of territorial-ism and territorialism is the direct result of the genetic program found within the DNA and RNA of our species. Accordingly, we may, in a darker moment, speculate that the 'family values' programmed into our geneticmakeup are the seeds for the violence we now see in our society as a whole. The genetic program must end in annihilation of spiritual values since its goal is physical (and in association, technological) perfection. The aim of physical evolution is a perfect physical specimen, the aim of technology is the ultimate refining and manipulation of matter, both work contrary to spiritual values. In the chronology of the Veda's (the Yuga's) spiritual evolution works in cycles of decline, from the Golden Age to the darkest age of Iron or Kali (the present age). In juxtaposition, physical evolution and the development of material culture and technology is seen as one of increasing complexity and refinement. Accordingly, (Fig 13) we can see that these two processes are contrary and in conflict. In the present Kali Yuga we are in a period of maximum cultural and technological development and yet at the same time spiritual awareness is at its lowest ebb.

Taking this into account, we may consider that the force behind the genetic program is inherently evil or destructive. In the terms of science we may see the 'selfish gene' as overriding morality, in psychological terms, we may hypothesise about Memes or collective mind control. In the terms of theology, these things are reflections of 'principalities and dominions'. In other words, the very genetic programming of mankind is the means by which the Demiurge or fallen creator keeps us away from our Light-Selves and the knowledge of who we truly are. Family values and reproduction while providing the means for further incarnation, simply absorb and destroy the chances we have for enlightenment. In one spiritual

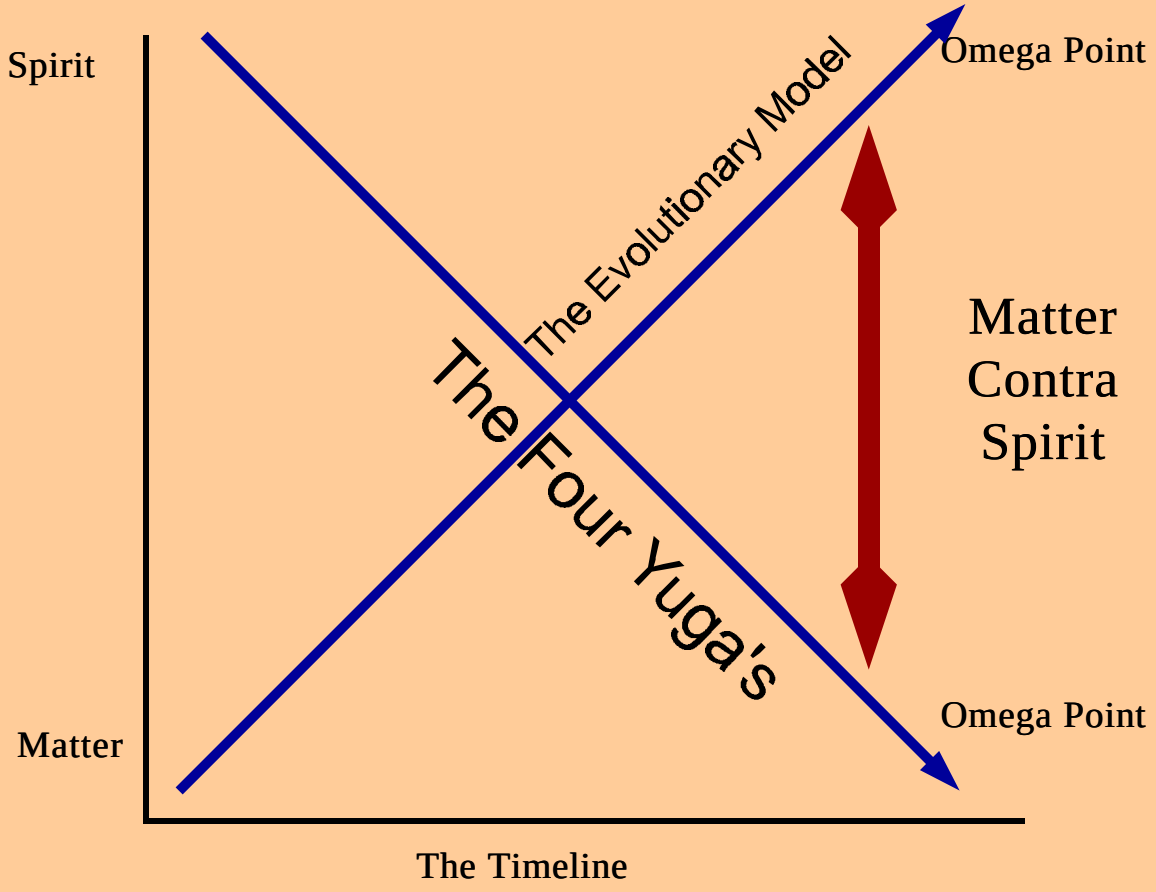


Fig 13: Chart of Evolutionary Technological cycle versus Yuga.Spirit

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tradition it is said that childbirth creates a black whole in the Aura, a psychic drain which cannot be easily repaired. Family values in this sense are actually destructive values. In emphasising the role of the family we sustain the very process which is destroying the soul of mankind. The emphasis on reproduction, family and the beauty of creation can be found at the core of false religion. While the Gnostic acknowledges that there is a beauty in nature, this comes from the light which exists inside or behind it, nature in itself is a mixture of light and darkness. To emphasise nature itself as perfect, reflecting the nature of God and related reproductive values creates a false paradigm, a paradigm which is at the core of modern religious and ideological forms.

The Earth versus the Sky

The best way to understand these two world-views is to contemplate the two possible approaches to nature. The ascending perspective is based traditionally on iconography related to the sky and stars, it represents (in religious terminology) the transcending of earth and the return to a world beyond the physical. In early traditions, its gods were those of the sky and earth gods are seen as subservient to the sky deities. A classic example of a sky cult is found in Ancient Egypt with its emphasis on going beyond death and returning to the stars. This is also illustrated in the focus early religions had on astronomy and astrology, this is well illustrated in such landmarks as Stonehenge, the Mayan and Egyptian Pyramids and other sites too numerous to list. While the seasons may have been celebrated, they were seen as representing the cycles that had to be overcome and the earth was traditionally seen in a negative or at least, ambivalent role. In general, reproduction was seen negatively, or as a base necessity. Homosexuality, bi-sexuality and gender variance were seen as part of the norm. While sex roles vary from tradition to tradition, most pagan sky cults were male in orientation (Egypt is a notable exception), the warrior was seen as transcending the earth as was the priest who was seen as the mediator. This should not be interpreted as sexist, the imagery of the warrior and priest was used to represent the process of transcendence, however, in application men or women could fulfil these roles. The emphasis was on the transcendence of reproduction and escape from the transitory nature of life rather than on specific gender characteristics.

The descending perspective is traditionally based on iconography related to the earth, it represents the worship of earth and a return to the earth at the end of life. In primitive traditions, its gods are earthly and of the elements and star deities are made subservient to them. A classic example of an earth cult is found in the earth matrifocal religions where the earth mother was worshipped. The seasons are seen as representing the eternal cycle of re-occurrence in which man is inherently a part. In general, reproduction is seen positively and sexual variations are either disdained or seen as somehow less significant that the reproductive ethic. This ethic is sometimes hidden under the guise of spiritual or occult polarities. The general imagery of the descending perspective is found in mother earth and related pagan traditions, the Goddess imagery is used to make the warrior and priest subservient

to the womb. It is interesting to note that both Paganism and Christianity fit into this category. Wicca, Paganism and Neo-paganism all emphasise the beauty of the cycles of earth and a focus on the fertility and reproductive worship of the earth Goddess or the Moon as the governess of the earth cycles. Christianity and Judaism both have distorted elements of sky cult iconography (since they are apostate forms of early Gnostic sky cults), but are in reality descending traditions. The focus being on reproduction, the family and material values. It is interesting to note that many modern Christian denominations now interpret heaven as a “new earth”, a redeemed and perfected physical world - the ultimate descending perspective.

While we have emphasised the religious applications of ascending and descending traditions, there are secular approaches just as illustrative. Plato and Pythagoras certainly embody the ascending approach, while the modern scientific approach and Marxism embody typical descending traditions.

The Dialectic

Reproduction in some way epitomises the ‘creation is good’ worldview, so does goddess worship and extreme environmentalism. While certainly we should protect the environment from destruction and exploitation, to do so in a way detrimental to our spiritual selves is in the end self defeating and only sustains the Demiurgic system. The same ‘dominions’ that manipulate the corporations who control the earth, manipulate those who defend it. This is the dialectic of the fallen world, control all options, plays right against left. In the end transcendence and synthesis is the only path. In the Gnostic Rosicrucian tradition the fallen world is known as the Dialectic plane, while the Treasury of Light is the Static. The constant ebb and flow, the thesis and antithesis of the lower world is how the Demiurge sustains control. By revolution and counter-revolution, the right and left are imaged as enemies and yet actually sustain the same ‘status quo’.

Transcendence

The Gnostic path is the ascending path, the quest back to our origins. It acknowedges the presence of light behind physical forms, but maintains that to

worship the forms is to miss the point. Reproduction and family values represent the perpetuation of values that are antithetical to spirit, to sustain the process of material and technological evolution is to do so at the detriment of spiritual growth and awakening. This does not mean we need to destroy nature or technology but that a total revolution of values is required. This does not means we must deny the pleasures of the flesh, but that we must forgo reproduction - this was the original meaning of celibacy. While certainly there are homosexual and gender variant traditions within the ascending paradigm, they are not the whole of the tradition. There is a widespread tradition of non-reproductive heterosexual sex and traditions based on asexuality or internalised sexual practise. To go beyond the earth and its related games and paradigms is difficult for the way of light is way beyond everything the physical world and its related ideologies and religions can offer. To go beyond the earth means going beyond everything you are and think you are, when you are willing to do this, the journey of Transfiguration will begin.

Chapter Five:
The Gnostic Identity Message

The Gnostic identity message is central to our understanding of the Gnostic tradition. It is difficult to summarise such a complex subject as it demands an extensive study of the evolution of religion, history and politics to grasp its meaning and even further thought to consider its ramifications. However, we need to at least examine some of the basic concepts on which the Gnostic identity message is founded.

The crux of the Gnostic Identity message is a radical re-interpretation of the Old and New Testaments, Israelite, Jewish and Christian history. From our perspective this re-interpretation is actually a return to the original essence of the Aryan-Gnostic traditions. To appreciate these re-interpretations it is imperative to consider the Bible in its original languages and in the context of the religious ideologies that prevailed at the period it was written. Central to this new understanding is the nature of Israel (covered in this chapter) and the nature of the Dominions and Principalities (next chapter).

For many years we have been taught that the title Israel belongs to the Jewish people who at present occupy the area of Palestine. However, if we consider the nature of modern Judaism and its present political attitudes some doubts may arise about the morality of such an association. So, if we go back and study the origins of Israel in the Old Testament with an open mind, some startling truths may begin to surface.

The Old Testament epic starts with the Adamic Lifestream. They are one of many Lifestreams which were entrapped into matter via the Archons. They exist in the Garden of Eden and work as slaves, well fed perhaps, but slaves nevertheless to an Archonic Lord. The Pleroma decries such exploitation and sends the serpent to awaken them, in response, they are thrown from Eden into the world. As they struggle with what they have learned from the Serpent, they give birth to Abel and Cain. Both of which submit to the Archons, one by sacrifice and the other by murder. In a further attempt to awaken the Lifestream, Seth is given a vision from the Treasury of Light about the nature of the false God. The history of Israel is the

history of a people battling between various Archons and the real Gnosis. They are a people who have a special and unique relationship with the Treasury of Light but who vacillate between the true gnosis, the worship of the Archon Yahweh and other local pagan customs. These people are described as being White (Adam means "he who blushes red") and while a focus is placed within the Sumerian and Egyptian cultures they were actually part of a world-wide Aryan culture which flourished at this earliest period. Throughout most Aryan traditions, including the Bible, White is associated with holiness and purity. (Isaiah 1:18, Daniel 12:10. Revelation 7:13,14 etc.) The Adamic race is hence the holy (holy means separate) (white) people of God. These people followed a unique religion that included strict laws regarding racial purity (no intermixing with foreigners) and a unique Mystery tradition which could be adapted to the symbolism of the region in which they happened to be living. (For example, it would include Zoroastrianism, early Vedic thought, Scythian Mysticism and Israelite theology). Throughout history these Aryan peoples have been at the forefront of culture. Though it is not a popular concept today, all major developments in culture have been made by western man!

While this is a theological rather than political study, just a quick glance through history shows the way in which Israelite culture civilised the world, as we know it.

> It is generally accepted that the kings of the first six dynasties of Egypt were of the Aryan race and with them Egypt's high civilisation suddenly developed. Undoubtedly, the Minoan civilisation of Crete derived its origins from early Adamic pioneers also.
>
> Tracing our Ancestors,
>
> F.Haberman.
>
> P 25.

Sumeria, Phoenicia, Crete, Vedic Indian culture...all were Aryan. Aryan here refers to a specific early period of the Sumeria-Egyptian Indo-European cultural base. Even China developed only under the influence of Adamite man.

> China represents the precise counterpart of Egypt. The light of civilisation was carried thither by Aryan colonies. The substratum of the social

> structure was composed of elements of the yellow race, but the while civilisers received reinforcements of their blood at various times.
>
> The Moral and intellectual diversity of races,
>
> De Gobineau, P 459.

Though it is very difficult to fully reconstruct the Old Testament as it has been so badly rewritten by Edomite scribes (more on this later), we gain some basic understanding regarding the nature of Israel from it and the character of its people.

Who is Israel?

If we accept the evidence that ancient Israel was White (and hence definitely not "Jewish" in the modern sense), then who actually are Israel ? We know that ancient Israel, whose capital was Samaria, was taken captive by the Assyrians in 721 BC and yet after this traditional history tells us that the ten tribes are lost - but is this really so ? Or has history also been twisted by scribes and politicians ? We know that Josephus writing in 70 CE states "the ten tribes did not return to Palestine only two tribes service the Romans after Palestine became a Roman province". According to Second Esdras (a book within the New Testament Apocrypha) the ten tribes moved a thousand miles west to Southeast Russia to become the people history knows as the Scythians. In Race and Civilisation Roger Pearsons writes " Nordic Scythians overran Palestine in the seventh century BC and the history of the Sacae or Scythians with their many tribes and branches is well worth following. They originated in south-east Europe and moved through Asia as far as Turkestan and Afghanistan, even into India to the Indus. Many early writers (such as Polemon of Ilium, Galienos, Clement of Alexandria, Adamantos) state that the Scythians were similar to the Celts and Germans being fair or ruddy in hue".

> Ancient historians including Ptolemy and Herodotus and modern historians such as Gibbon have also affirmed that the captive tribes of Israel were known through various periods as Guta, Gatae, Gauls, Goths, Manda, Dacians, Teutons, Normans, Angli, Suka, Scythians and Saxons. All these people were of the same racial stock and heritage as Ancient Israel. Now it is possible that Israel disappeared

> in one section of the world and the progenitors of the Anglo-Saxon-Celtic people appeared in the same place a few years later without the two peoples being in anyway related but hardly probable! The overwhelming circumstantial evidence makes it appear that the lost tribes of Israel and the progenitors of the Anglo-Saxon-Celtic people were one and the same. And when, in addition to the circumstantial evidence cognisance is taken that these people have fulfilled what the prophets wrote of Israel, the probability becomes a certainty.
>
> Sharon Turner

Recreating Ariosophy

If we identify Israel with the Aryan Lifestream then the issue arises of how we perceive Judaism and the Old Testament. Modern theological thought tends to see the Old testament as the primary revelation from Yahweh on which western Judaism and Christianity is built. The Gnostic perspective is very different from this. The Old Testament, as it is in its modern form, is a distorted text that actually records the beliefs of Edomite Scribes during the Babylonian captivity. It twisted the real teaching regarding God, man, nature and spirituality beyond recognition and in reality expouses a worship of the Archons rather than the Lord of Light. For the Gnostic, the original Israelite Mysteries are harder to locate, however they are remnants of an early Pan-Aryan religious movement - if you know where to look. This movement was spread world-wide as the Aryans moved across the globe and spread their culture and learning. We can find fragments of this forgotten faith in such divergent traditions as the Zarathustrian, the Vedic and many, many others. We can even find remnants in the most bizarre of locations, for example, it is believed that the South American Indians actually carry on a tradition bequest to them from the Scythians !

The oldest Old Testament writings, known as the El stream, describe a pagan religion very different from how we presently see Judaism and Christianity and very different from the Gnosis. It was simply one of the many Archonic belief systems vying for possession of the Adamic Lifestream. The best way to appreciate the situation in Israel is the see various Archons (like criminal warlords) all battling for control, while the Gnosis was vanquished to secret chapels and temples. The real

Israelite gnosis was a teaching centred on spiritual technologies such as Shamanism, it has a strong separatist flavour and had a special priesthood called the Qadesh. The modern view of Judaism comes from the " edited " Bible which was moulded by the Priests of Edom in Babylon. After Israel had left Babylon and began their quest across the globe, a small group of Hylics (soulless ones) inspired by the Archon Yahweh re-wrote the Old Testament in such a way that they could grasp control of the people of Israel and thus Israel itself. Accordingly, the Old Testament was totally re-written or probably more correctly, the oral teachings were written down in a form alien to their real intent. The early alternative traditions were removed or edited so as to be seen in a negative light and Yahweh the Barbaric warrior God was placed in the hands of a Pharisaic Priestclass. Accordingly, the Old Testament is a dangerous and unbalanced book. Many Gnostic traditions reject it altogether and believe that if you were to accept the Old testament *as it is* and worship the God of the Old testament you would be worshipping Satanel himself !

To really understand the nature of the early Pan-Aryan traditions they need to be seen as indigenous Mystery cults passed down from father to son (this is the meaning of the world Kabbalah) and embodying the secrets of creation. When Israel was taken into captivity a large segment of these teachings went with her and were transmitted to different locations around the globe and remnants remain in forms alien to what many would consider to be Judaic or Christian at all ! One of the major focus points of this tradition was within Ireland and England.

The Druid Connection

A classic example is found in the Druidic traditions. It is believed by many that the Druids became the Priestclass of Israel in exile after they had settled in Ireland and England. Many facets of the early Druidic faith resemble what we know of the original Israelite Mysteries. The secret alphabet which the Israelites used was sustained by the Druids and for mnemonic purposes was related to trees (and later to Birds and Animals). The Druids also met in outdoor sanctuaries (certainly the original Israelite way of worship), kept to their own and sustained a priesthood which had much in common with the Qadesh. Certainly the native religion of the Celts and many other Indo-Europeans betray a strong similarity to the Israelite traditions. One

interesting fact to note is that according to many modern linguists the Welsh language has more words taken from Hebrew than any other language world-wide. This and many other historical facts suggest that the traditions of early England rather than being darkly pagan were actually Gnostic and probably embodied more truth than what was being taught in the Churches that were attacking them for heresy ! A later tradition regarding the relationship of Jesus to the Druids adds even further light on these connections..

In regards to Jesus travelling to Britain the details are sketchy but reliable. The evidence suggests that Israel was more of a cosmopolitan region than many scholars have realised, it had links with many peoples and many cultures. Joseph of Arimathea was a very rich man and it is now believed he bought and traded tin and other items from bases in England, probably Cornwall and Somerset. We know that after the death of Jesus around AD 63 St.Phillip actually sent Joseph and others back to England to preach the Gospel (*Refer*. Victory of Aurelius Ambrosius by Gildad Albanicus). In regards to Jesus travelling to Britain with Joseph there are many traditions in Somerset and other localities that certainly suggest same. It is even suggested that the very location of Glastonbury Cathedral is where Jesus and Joseph built their hut on their first trip to Britain.

> In the western confines of Britain there is a certain royal island of large extent, surrounded by water, abounding in all the beauties of nature and necessaries of life. In it the first Neophites of Catholic Law, God beforehand acquainting them found a Church constructed by no human art but divinely constructed (by the hands of Christ himself) for the salvation of his people. The Almighty has made it manifest by many miracles and mysterious visitations that He continues to watch over it as sacred to Himself....
>
> A letter from St.Augustine to Pope Gregory

Amazing as it may seem even the Druids believe that Jesus came to Britain and taught them the esoteric teachings, for example, Taliesin, the Bard and Druid (circa AD 550) states “Christ, the word from the beginning, was from the beginning our teacher and we never lost his teachings”.

There are many volumes examining the details of Jesus' trek to Britain, some of the more important examine the historical record of Glastonbury which can be traced right back to the chapel built by Jesus himself. For this reason the site has continued to remain sacred and became the centre of other important legends and religious tales such as King Arthur and his knights. Obviously since Britain was the destination for so many of the Lost tribes of Israel we may expect that it would be of primary importance for the early spreading of the message. From many accounts Ireland and England were the first countries outside Palestine to receive the Christian message.

The Essene Link

Connected to these migrations is another very important link. When some of the people of Judah returned to Palestine after the captivity, not all accepted the Roman rule and integrated into the secular state. Though the Pharisees and Saduccees continued the corrupt form of Talmudic (Edomite) form of Judaism, some of those who returned kept the original Ario-Israelite faith and separated themselves off into the deserts.

Though this group travelled from location to location, around approx. 180 BC they formed a secret communal order to sustain the ancient Mysteries in the deserts of Palestine. This group kept racially separate from the rest of the local peoples, so while other returning Judeans mixed with the Edomites and other races, this group kept its purity. This group sustained the original Israelite teachings, so as "Judaism" in its Pharisaic form became popular they rejected it, refused to worship in the temple and lived a monastic life in the desert. This group was known as the Essenes and forms an important link in the survival of the Gnosis through the dark time from Constantine's rule to the present.

> If it is true as everyone attests, that Moses left an oral law, it is amongst the Essenes that it was preserved. The Pharisees who flattered themselves so highly on possessing it, only has its outward forms, as Jesus reproaches them at every moment. It is from these latter that the modern Jews descend.
>
> **La Langue Hebraique,**
>
> **Fabre D'Olivet.**

While we will study the Essenes in more detail later, they form an important background, as it is from them that Jesus came and re-established the Gnostic faith. They are not an easy group to understand as they were in some sense transitionary. While they tried to keep the original Israelite faith they were also corrupted by many local customs, laws and beliefs and hence while their hearts were in the right place, their beliefs were not. Their value is more in the bridge they created for the Ario-Israelite traditions and Jesus, than in their own doctrinal stance.

Jesus was not a Jew racially or by geography (he was a Galilean), he was certainly not a Jew by religion either (Pharisaic or Edomite Jew) but an Israelite in the Essene sense. In this context we can then see how Gnosticism (or real Christianity) developed out of the Israelite-Essenes, not the Judaism of Palestine. We can also clearly see how Judaism (in the modern sense) developed from The Talmudic schools of Babylon not from Israel. Accordingly we get a clear picture that all is not what it seems in modern religious traditions. When we add to this the fact that Emperor Constantine re-moulded the prevailing Jewish and Christian groups into a political amalgam in 325 AD (Nicea), a new history arises.

> They (The Essenes) were not waiting to receive the Law - they already possessed it. Their aim was to deliver it from the realms of darkness in which it had been engulfed. The Torah, that is, the Divine Teachings as revealed to Moses had, it was held, been successively perverted by false expositors .
>
> The Dead Sea Scriptures,
>
> Theodore Gaster,
>
> Doubleday, NY.

The Essenes, Jesus and the Foundations of Gnosticism

The work of Jesus is central to the transformation of the Gnostic Tradition. Jesus as a pre-existent spirit; the Arch-Angel Michael took human form so he could experience and overcome the power of the Archons and the Dialectic World, and show the way through which members of the Adamic Lifestream could do likewise.

He was born and lived as a human with the same potential for failing; same potential for sin as all humans, he experienced the Dialectic tides and overcome them. He travelled the world in his "so-called" missing years, studying in both India and Britain, bringing the threads of the Mystery Tradition to a common climax. While at the same time achieving a mastery of himself and the world around him. The baptism of Jesus shows clearly his high state of Initiation, his energy field has been cleansed of Dialectic elements by Sophia and in recognition of his achievement, the Father (the Lord of Wisdom) acknowledges his new state. Michael is now Jesus the Christ, the Christ state being the achievement of communication with the Mind of God or the Logos.

> As soon as Jesus was baptised, he went up out of the water. At that moment heaven was opened, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and lighting on him. And a voice from heaven said, "This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased."
>
> Matthew 3:16,17

Jesus was now in a position to transform the human situation, as a Son of God (a being whose essence is in commune with the Logos and whose actions embody the Holy Spirit), he now went about his task of redeeming Israel. It is quite clear from the many references in the Gospels that Jesus came only for Israel. He was the Messiah from the Land of Light come for his people.

> These twelve Jesus sent out with the following instructions: "Do not go among the Gentiles or enter any town of the Samaritans, go rather to the lost sheep of Israel.
>
> As you go, preach this message: `The kingdom of heaven is near.'
>
> He answered, "I was sent only to the lost sheep of Israel."
>
> Matthew 10:5-7
>
> Matthew 15:24

Jesus however had more to achieve than simply transmit the Gnosis to Israel, Jesus had to initiate the current which would open the door to the Mysteries. Knowledge,

in the sense of doctrine or belief was not enough, Jesus himself had to spiritually transform the nature of the Dialectic plane, so redemption from the Archons could become possible. Prior to the advent of Jesus no escape from the World of the Archons was available ! Even the astral/etheric worlds were under the influence of the fallen system. Jesus therefore came to demonstrate that the power of death inherent in the Dialectic kingdom could be overcome.

Some Conclusions

This chapter has covered a lot of ground. We hope by now you have some concept of the Gnostic Identity message. In the next chapter we will cover the equally challenging subject of Dominions and Principalities and the Soulless Ones. To fully appreciate the practical application of these theories, especially in relation to personal transformation, you need to study the rest of this Handbook. For now it is simply enough to appreciate the radically different nature of the real Gnosis as opposed to modern religious systems and to see the real heritage of the Gnostic tradition. Clearly, the teachings of Israel were perpetuated within the Lost tribes in Britain and environs and within the Mystery teachings of the Essenes. The message of Jesus in its pure form (Gnosis) therefore had its origins in the Essenes rather than in Edomite Judaism. After the time of Jesus the battle continued and the Gnosis was driven underground by Constantine in 325 AD at Nicea who instated a State form of Edomite Christianity. The traditions of the Essenes struggled underground and were transmitted by various secret orders. While the apostate forms of Judaism (derived from the Talmud) and Christianity (derived from Constantine) thrived to become major political powers, the history of the Gnosis is the history of the underground survival of truth against all odds.

Israel is hence not found within modern "Israel" (Palestine) nor within Judaism and Christianity. Israel is now in reality the western nations of the world - England, America, Australia, Germany etc. and its teachings are found within the secret and esoteric Western movements and within the secret teachings of the Gnosis.

Chapter Six: Dominions and Principalities

They thought of themselves, that they were beings existing by themselves and without a source, since they do not see anything else existing before them. Therefore they live in disobedience and acts of rebellion, without having humbled themselves before the one because of whom they came into being.

They wanted to command one another, outrivaling one another in their vain ambition…They were brought to a lust for power over one another according to the glory of the name of which each is a shadow, each one imagining that it is superior to the others.

Nag Hammadi Tri.Trac 79:12-32.

The first of them, Ialdaboath despised the Mother in that without her permission he made sons and grandsons – angels, archangels, excellences, powers and dominions. When they had been made, his sons turned to a struggle against him for the primacy.

Sethian-Ophite Tradition quoted by Irenaeus in Against Heresy (V 30.5)

For we contend not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against the powers, against the world rulers of this present darkness.

Ephesians 6:12

The Radical Gnosis

The essence of the Gnostic vision is dualistic, however, it goes far further than just accepting that matter was created by a Demiurge or Demi-God, even the understanding that nature is flawed and life is a battle between light and darkness is only part of the Gnostic vision. For the Gnostic the whole of creation is manipulated and controlled, internally and externally, by dominions and principalities, some of these are overtly destructive and evil, while others appear benign, even angelic.

> And no marvel; for Satan himself is transformed into an angel of light.
> 2 Corinthians 11;14 KJV

These dominions exist on multiple levels, it is too simplistic to reduce them, for example, to spiritual beings alone or to the natural tendency of human beings towards evil, while they encompass these things they are more, much more. The Dominions and Principalities, also known as Archons or powers, are the very tools or essence of our false creation, the Mandeans, for example, believe that they were the forces which actually formed our physical bodies. To understand the Archons is to truly appreciate the Cosmic Battle and hence this essay is to acquaint us with some of the levels on which they operate, and to discuss some of the ramifications that the Gnostic belief in the Archons necessitate.

The Evolution of Dominions and Principalities

For the early Gnostics, the state and authorities were hostile. The powers that existed outside of their communities were considered compromised, destructive and malefic. If we consider the example of the Essenes, they saw themselves at the forefront of a cosmic war between the forces of light (themselves) and the fallen dominions that include physical forces such as Rome and the Jews, and the spiritual denizens of the astral worlds. The Essenes were well aware of the spiritual realities but also saw that these realities were superimposed on the physical, indeed, they used Biblical terms as codewords for many of the physical enemies. Babylon, for example, represented spiritual debauchery and apostasy, while Rome was considered as Satan incarnate

(Book of Revelation 12-13). To appreciate the development of the concept of Dominions and Principalities we need to briefly consider the possibility that the history of Christian origins we have been given is erroneous, while this is not the place to debate origins he, the evolution of the concept of Dominions and Principalities can only be understood if we see history in a different fashion. The most prevalent view is that Judaism was the source religion, the Essenes were an isolated Jewish Sect and that after Christianity developed out of Judaism Gnosticism broke off as a heretical movement. The Gnostic response to this is that only the Dominions and Principalities themselves could distort history so badly!

The Gnostic view of the origins of Christianity is complex, but in a nutshell it is that the Judaism that was prevalent after the Babylonian captivity, and hence at the time of Christ, was a twisted form of Talmudic Judaism, that had little if anything in common with the original Israelite traditions. The Essenes rejected this new Talmudic form wholeheartedly and withdrew into the desert to practice the original Israelite faith. This Essene faith developed into pre-Christian Gnosticism. It was from the Essenes that Jesus emerged, his teachings were essentially Gnostic. Christianity developed in the first centuries as a distortion of the original Jesus-Gnosis, it was the heresy.
If we consider this view we can come to some appreciation of what happened to the doctrine of Dominions and Principalities.

> (*They took....*)The name of those that are good and gave it to those that are not good, so that through the names they might deceive him (mankind) and bind those to those that are not good.
>
> **Nag Hammadi Gospel of Phillip 54:18-25.**

The above verse and many like it are describing the motivation behind the apostate form of Christianity, a form in which the names of the Gnosis are used, but the wisdom twisted. This process can be seen most clearly in the teachings regarding Dominions and Principalities, for the developing political-religious force of Christianity this doctrine was a problem. If the average Christian believed that the political powers were representatives of the fallen ones, how could they be ruled and controlled. How could the Church integrate with a state system if the average Church

member saw the State as the enemy? So slowly and surely the Christian establishment watered down the doctrine of Dominions and Principalities. At first they disavowed the Archons and Dominions and Principalities and replaced them with demons. Then they limited the powers of the demons, demons are spiritual entities accordingly they cannot exist as political organisations, governments, states etc. As the compromise continued, the Church was able to create itself as a literal, theocratic force and degrade the concept of Dominions and Principalities to such an extent that it only survived in the underground Gnostic movements. For the early Gnostics obedience to the Church as a political force would have been tantamount to doing business with the devil himself.

Today Christians certainly believe in demons, but they see them only as semi-autonomous spiritual entities (like evil angels) and hence deny the fallen power that is working in themselves and the world around them. We even have Dominion Christians who want to take over the political system and create national Christian governments, mixing politics and Christianity, fallen social structures with religious fundamentalism.

Dominions and Principalities

The concept of Dominions and Principalities is central to the Gnostic worldview, however, it is far more pervasive that it may seem at first. Man is a Hybrid entity, many Gnostic sects believed that his physical and psychological structures were actually created by the Archons out of corrupted spiritual substances, only his spark of light was eternal. The Gnostics saw that only the light sparks could be redeemed, all social structures, families, political systems, institutions, all must in the end be destroyed. Matter, sex, nature, the world, everything was an error, a mistake, a trap into which the light had been locked. Accordingly the Dominions and Principalities exist on all manner of planes and dimensions, inside and outside us, within matter and outside it, to reduce them to autonomous demons is to place them outside, to limit their power. To do so is to the miss the point, they are part of everything that isn’t the True Self. It is not what Dominions and Principalities are, but where they are not !

Archons within

> “The son of the King of Darkness spoke to the daughters of darkness.
>
> “He cried: ‘Give me your sons and daughters and I shall make for you a figure of your desire’.
>
> “They brought them and gave them to him
>
> “He ate the female ones and handed over the males to Nekbael, his companion.
>
> “He entered Nekbael.
>
> “Nekbael became pregnant and bore a son named Adam and a daughter named Havva. (Eve)
>
> “When Adam awoke, he found himself mingled and imprisoned in everything that exists, shackled in the stench of darkness”.
>
> The Flight to Lucifer,
>
> Harold Bloom

Man is a Hybrid Being, what does this mean ? It means that the body and mind (soul) that he thinks are his are not, they are part of the created fallen kingdom and work against him. His physical organism has been genetically engineered from the genetic substance of violent apes, so his body follows the instincts of reproduction and instinct. The Selfish Gene rules supreme in his physical vehicle, however, even it is not united. The physical body has many programs, many “selves”, it has desires that must be fed, roles, which must be acted out and can control man through pain, pleasure and any degree in-between. Through the hormones man can be reduced to a quivering heap or into a killing machine. Since the body is made of the stuff of matter and matter was created from the shells of fallen Archons, many traditions suggest that the body itself carries with it related spiritual parasites. These can be understood as demons, body Thetans or shells, whatever name we may wish to use. But they swarm around the physical shell, feeding on it and feeding back into it. This may seem obscure if we consider the body as a solid, material form, but when we realize

that the physical organism extends a further 6-8 feet outwards into electromagnetic forms (the astral body or aura), then we can comprehend this image of the body more readily. If we also consider how on some level we are linked to other human beings, then we can imagine how powers or dominions could move from electromagnetic field to electromagnetic field, from body to body.

In the realm of the mind it is not dissimilar. Memes are like mind viruses, they swim in the ocean we call the collective unconscious. Since all mankind is linked at a deep mental level, then Memes or in more religious terms, Dominions and Principalities can move easily from consciousness to consciousness, mind to mind. As they do so they can control groups, organizations, businesses and of course, individuals. While we like to think of our minds as centered and integrated if we are critical we realize that there are many selves within us, there are the images we have of ourselves, the images we inherited from our parents, there are critical selves, funloving selves, self effacing selves and so on. While many of these selves are sub-personalities and aspects of our psyche, they also feed and are fed by forces both within and beyond the mind.

Granted, this is a paranoiac vision. Yet naming it paranoid does not change the reality. The madness of paranoid schizophrenic is not the vision he sees, but the vantage point he takes of it. For the Gnostic we must examine the Dominions and Principalities from the perspective of the higher self, if we are on the path to this vantage point (Transfiguration) then our changing awareness controls the encroachment of the Archonic forces. However, we mustn't be deceived, Dominions and Principalities exist within us, since our body and minds are not our own, they work at cross-purposes to our real essence. Only be training these lower vessels and awakening the Light Spark can the Archons be banished.

Archons as World Powers

The Archons may exist within us, but they also exist in the world at large. As Memes they can move like viruses through the bloodstreams which make up the collective unconscious of the planet. They manipulate governments, organizations, policy makers and thinkers. They reduce efforts to awaken mankind to minimal effect and encourage anything that leads away from awakening. They feed the conglomerates of

business, commercialism and the press and play off ideological opposites so we do not see beyond the obvious. For example, Christian Conservative (pro-family) values are played against sexual freedom values. In the end both are tools of the Dominion, both lead to the altar of the Archons, whether we fall on our knees through obedience or quivering with desire is irrelevant, we still fall. The Archons also exist beyond earth as alien species and spiritual guides. There is no doubt that there are genuine spiritual realities and extra terrestrials, which are favourable to mankind. However, there are far more spirit guides and ET's who are malefic and working as part of the fallen system of Dominions and Principalities. To be waiting for wisdom from a deceased guide, spiritual master or extra-terrestrial is to be waiting to be deceived.

If we believe that spiritually destructive forces are working on many different levels, then we cannot ignore the existence of these forces on the physical plane as well as on the spiritual. For centuries there has been a belief in a Secret Government which manipulates and controls world politics, while conspiracy theories may seem, at first glance, unbelievable, when we consider the current state of world affairs then it does seem that some sort of nefarious plan has been in operation. In Conspiracy or Degeneracy by Revilo.P.Oliver we read the following...

> A theory that a conspiracy has been working consciously for many centuries is not very plausible unless one attributes to them a religious unity. That is tantamount to regarding them as Satanists engaged in the worship and service of supernatural evil, the directors of the conspiracy must see or otherwise directly perceive manifestations which convince them of the existence and power of Lucifer (Satan). And since subtle conspirators must be very shrewd men, not likely to be deceived by auto-suggestion, hypnosis,or drugs, we should have to conclude that they probably are in contact with a force of pure evil.

This quote illustrates the real focus of the world conspiracy theory. It is not enough to posit the existence of a secret government behind the scenes, we need to ascertain the nature of the forces which govern this secret government. And clearly these forces are the powers we have described and those who rule these secret bodies are the Dominions and Principalities we have discussed. There are more books than we can list that identify the Secret Government and its links with bodies such as the

Trilateral Commission, the Council on Foreign Relations, the Bilderberg Group and the United Nations, however, only when we grasp the clear indication that these bodies are operated by alien entities, entities without souls controlled and manipulated by destructive Archons do we really understand the full nature of the world around us.

> I am not so interested in identifying and describing these individuals as I am in calling your attention that they do exist. John the Baptist as he preached the coming of the Christ, foretold the end of this race of mechanical men when he said " O generation of vipers, who hath warned you to flee from the wrath to come" . Again referring to the barrenness of this counterfeit creation he said, " Every tree therefore which bringeth not forth good fruit is hewn down, and cast into the fire ". He prophesied the coming of one who would baptise with the sacred fire.." Whose fan is in his hand, and he will thoroughly purge his floor and will gather the wheat into his garner, but the chaff he will burn with fire unquenchable ".
>
> Needless to say these human automatons are the chaff and their final end can come through only one process: Transmutation. For this is the only approved method whereby the wicked shall be removed from the face of the earth.

> In the Bible these soulless beings are referred to throughout as the wicked for they have seen to it that all more specific descriptions of their race have been removed - lest mankind discover them and rise in righteous indignation against their overlords. And thus the death of John the Baptist and that of Jesus the Christ were brought about by the counterfeit race who for thousands of years have set brother against brother, race against race and have caused the children of God to blame one another for the murder of the saints. Today, as always, they occupy positions of authority and financial power. They have gained control of the destiny of empires and they seek ever to thwart the purposes of God. The injudicious use of taxation exerted by their direction has placed an unconscionable yoke upon the neck of humanity. Their control of entertainment media and the trends of youth towards dissonant arts

> forms and discordant music has perverted noble attributes and spawned a race of delinquent rebels whose code, or lack of it, has gnawed at the vital future of America and the people of many nations. Modern means of communication and distribution of the printed word, the spoken word and the dramatic word through television and motion pictures have caused ideas to span continents and the world almost with the speed of light. Like a prairie fire, the dry grass consumes itself to the roof of hopes of humanity which are blighted, then by the searing infamy of wasted energy and emotion.
>
> The Soulless Ones: Cloning of a Counterfeit Creation.
>
> Mark.L.Prophet.
>
> Summit University Press, L.A. 1981.

The doctrine of Dominions and Principalities is one of the more difficult to explain without sounding extremist and paranoid. It certainly lends itself to dark speculation and conspiracy theories. However, it is a doctrine that is central to a real understanding of dualism, if the world is really a mixture of light and darkness, if the creator of matter is really a false god, then the ramifications of this paradigm is found in the doctrine of Dominions and Principalities. In some sense it is mandatory for our Transfiguration to realize the extent to which our bodies, mind, world and reality are controlled and manipulated by forces hostile to our spiritual goals.

Hylics, Psychics and Pneumatics

Leading from this new understanding of what the world, indeed, material creation is made up of, we need to consider how it applies to humanity. In the Gnostic system of Valentinus, the Dominions play an important part in the creation story. Under the direction of the Demiurge they created a whole order of likenesses, copies, shadows and phantasms which take the forms of the world of light, but are dark within. These forms are used to control and degrade the Light Sparks which are locked within them.

The first creation by the Dominions were the Hylics – these make up the average

human stock. They are beings that entirely lack the light spark. They are “fighters, warriors, troublemakers, apostates in disobedience, lovers of power” (Nag Hammadi Tri.Trac 79:12-32). These Hylics were created by genetic modifications to our ape-like ancestors. To make them more pliant and useful, a second Dominion creation was undertaken.

In an attempt to simulate the dimensions of light, the Dominions created the Psychics. These human beings have the divine spark but it is mired in matter, desire and mind. In an attempt to awaken them the Lords of Light sent prophets to encourage them to rebel against their fallen masters, when they did so, the Demiurge attempted to destroy them with a great flood. Many of the tales of the Old Testament are actually stories of the Demiurge destroying the Children of Light, twisted and re-written in a reversed fashion by Talmudic impostors.

The third class of humanity, Pneumatics, were not created by the Dominions. They evolved over earth history as the vibration from the Pleroma awakened an elite class, they are the teachers, Parfait and enlightened ones.

The Path beyond

The Gnostic doctrine of Dominions and Principalities is troublesome, it is not easy to transmit and can be interpreted in so many ways. For the Gnostic on the path of Transfiguration paranoid speculation is not an option. The focus point must be on the awakening of Self rather than on the fallen forces around us, while we must be aware of the enemy (within and with-out), we cannot allow our focus to become obsessed, cynical or bitter. As we tread the spiritual path we must bring our own Dominions and Principalities into order, we must force the body and mind into submission and awaken the great light of which we are made. This sounds simple, the practice is difficult. For to awaken the Light Spark, we must act against everything we think we are. The demands of our bodies and minds are false, reproduction, family, career, and pleasure – all lead away from what we truly are. There is a path beyond, may you be granted the light to see it.

Since I have been bound to the flesh

I have forgotten my divinity.

I was forced to drink the cup of madness

I was forced to turn my hand against myself..

The Powers and Principalities

Approached and armed themselves against me…

Be an enchanter of Light

And lay a spell on them till I pass…

A Manichaean Hymn.

Chapter Seven: The Nature of Man

The Selfish Gene

To understand the nature of man from a Gnostic perspective, we must also come to consider his nature from the perspective of science. In some ways earlier this century this would have proved of little value in our search for Gnostic truth, however, an amazing transformation has recently occurred in modern science. It has been slow in coming and is one which many scientists would not like to discuss, it is the realisation that there is a point where science and religion cross-purposes and agree. The frightening truth about this agreement is that it isn't about new age physics, the nature of God or the transcendent union of science and religion, it about the nature of man, in more blunt terms, about the problem of man.

For many years, science, under the influence of liberalism and humanism, tended to favour the logic of the "Noble Savage". Violence and moral evil were human problems, probably caused by the conflict between mans intellect and his natural instincts. Nature was great, instincts were marvellous and sex was fun. This logic was buttressed with romantic notions about the innocence of animals, the moral purity of instinct and the marketable icon of the harmless, playful, innocent ape. However, as science progressed these notions fell like a house of cards. During the 1970s science began to refine its interpretation of Darwin's theory of evolution, this refinement became known as sociobiology, inclusive fitness theory or in more journalistic terms, the selfish gene theory. It was popularised by Richard Dawkins in his book, the Selfish Gene. What was discovered then and is now considered conventional scientific wisdom is that the ultimate justification for evolution is found in the genes. That is - to maximise genetic successes and assure the passing on of those genes to subsequent generations. This principle, however terrifying in its ramifications, is the state of present evolutionary theory. When this is combined with our new understanding of the nature of animal behaviour, a darker and more reflective scientific paradigm arises, one that has more in common with Gnosticism than with any new age vision of spiritual unity.

A Man and a Chimp

Man's relationship to apes has always been a matter of conjecture. What we need to do is to remove the theories and debates about our origins and consider the state of humanity as it presently is. There are many ways we can consider the theory of evolution and we could debate ad infinitum. Whether we accept Darwinian evolution or a modification thereof, whether we believe that evolution was manipulated by ET's, God(s), etc or even if we consider that this is a degenerative stage of a larger evolutionary cycle (Theosophy, Anthroposophy etc), the fact remains that mans present genetic inheritance says something about his present condition. The latest scientific research puts modern man right in the centre of the ape kingdom. For example, the results of DNA tests undertaken by Sibley and Ahlquist (published in the Journal of Molecular Evolution), show conclusively that man is more closely related to chimpanzees than gorillas are! When these results were questioned, further tests were undertaken by other scientists (with more advanced equipment) and the results were the same. Earlier research by George Nuttall had also confirmed mans genetic heritage and using blood tests on over six hundred species he was able to show that mans evolutionary background was more closely related to the apes than to monkeys. The genetic evidence shows the modern man is *within* the ape kingdom, his genes are remarkably similar to chimpanzees, as is his behaviour and this is where things get scary.

The latest scientific evidence we have regarding apes is not inspiring. While they may seem affectionate and lovable at first appearance extensive study in the wild has shown a far darker side. Apes murder, rape and torture. They defend their territory and will intrude on any surrounding territories using commando like raids. In various studies of ape behaviour, it was estimated that at least 40% of all cases of copulation involved elements of violence, which would be interpreted as rape. Apes have short memories when it comes to friends, if an ape leaves one pack and joins another, he becomes an instant enemy. Raids on other packs are frequent, bloody and brutal and involve ambush, torture and death. Apes behave very differently from many other animal species and their violence seems to have a direct relation to human behaviour. While we may use intellect to justify and explain our reactions, it is terrifyingly clear that the genetic heritage we have is directly related to the behavior we see in the ape kingdom. It creates some fascinating questions and quandaries.

Why Intellect ?

If man is the result of a planned “experiment” by his genetic structure then why did his intelligence evolve at all, this question has modern science stumped. Apes and related kin are excellent, while barbaric, reproducers. They create lots of offspring and continually re-enforce their genetic heritage by territorialism and violence. Accordingly, why would the “genetic program” interfere in such a way as to create what we understand as mind? Many argue that intelligence developed as the result of hand-eye coordination through the use of tools. However, there are many species that use tools including apes. Apes are quick to learn, and use whatever they can find to open that nut, get that fruit or crush that skull. However, apes haven’t developed intelligence, at least not in our “frame of reference”.

This argument creates a fascinating possibility. Was nature interfered with? Did some genetic engineering take place that modified available genetic substances, to create modern man? This sort of reasoning is used extensively by such writers as Sitchin and more uncritically, Von Daniken. The darker side of this suggestion is why would an alien lifeform modify genetic substance without adequately balancing the social effects of the inherent flaws within the original substance. If an alien species, a deity or whatever was capable of manipulating genetic materials, then surely it would be aware of the destructive power inherent within the ape-like form it was transforming. Accordingly, if we consider that there was some manipulation of mans genetic structure, then the suggestion would be that this was accomplished by an inefficient and ignorant form (unlikely considering the required technology) or one that was and is malefic or at least, unsympathetic, to the resulting human condition.

This may all seem a little much, and yet if we consider the myths and legends that abound within mans history they all seem to include such tales of interference. The Gnostics believed that matter was created by a false creator and that man was moulded out of fallen substance in an effort to trap particles of light (pre-existent souls). In modern times, Sitchin has argued that an alien race genetically engineered mankind as a slave species, but man rebelled and developed consciousness. There are so many myths, stories, tales and legends that suggest someone or something interfered with the ape genetic form to create man, all tend to see this creation as

destructive. While modern “exoteric” religions seem to cry out that matter is good and God is the creator, most esoteric faiths, from the Vedic to the Gnostic, suggest that matter is at best dangerous, at worst malefic and that mans creation was the result of either a miscalculation or error, or a deliberate destructive act.

The view that apes were engineered as a mechanism to catch souls which existed in the first estate (the spiritual worlds) is a commonly held one. Many Gnostic sects saw that the fallen creator in his attempt to wretch control of the universe, first created matter so as to encapsulate and control the light. He then evolved the physical form of mankind so he could capture the pre-existent light forms and turn them into automations under his control. In some sense this is certainly what has occurred. While we may debate details, it is certainly true that there is a dichotomy between mans genetic programming and his mind (which is the gate for his true Spiritual self). Even if we have trouble accepting the more flamboyant aspects of this theory, the split within mankind and the violence of its innate genetic programming cannot be ignored.

The Role of the Mind

The role of the mind in human development has been ambivalent to say the least, from one perspective it is our saving grace, from another it keeps us enslaved. According to Sitchin, the mind was genetically engineered through modifications to the brain so that a slave race could be created. Apes could not be so easily controlled, so a brain/mind complex (however originally limited) was created so that through the dichotomy between the complex and the instincts, control could be established. Continuing from this argument, early religions, isms and social structures would have worked as “social control mechanisms” to keep the slaves in their pre-ordained roles. As time went on, however, the mechanism of control became the tool of liberation. Even the most limited mind/brain complex began to develop thoughts outside the “control spectrum”, and one thought led to another and ultimately rebellion. Whether we accept this paradigm or not, we can certainly see that the intellect has a contradictory role, it exists as an affront to what science understands as the normal evolutionary process and can work to enslave or liberate.

In this extra-terrestrial cosmology, we may deduce that there are many diverse alien

species, some who wished to help man, many who wished to keep him controlled. Accordingly, some early cultures worked to liberate mans intellect, some to enslave via it. It is interesting to note that many early Gnostic religions had a similar view of human nature, while from a more religious perspective. In one Mandean account we read of demons copulating together and their progeny being mans body and mind. Accordingly mans physical and mental forms are in direct opposition to his spiritual essence. In other Gnostic traditions, it is seen that mans mind is a mixture of light and darkness and offers the opportunity to ascend beyond limitation through its redemption.

Freud argues that civilisation exists only in as much as it suppresses instinct and in many ways we are now retuning to his understanding. While pleasure may be the veneer that we accept as justification for our behaviour, not far under the surface is a pit of uncontrolled violence. The major contradiction in our culture is the desire for individualism, for the more we demand freedom, the more restraints are removed and the more we return to the unfettered apelike creatures we once were. Accordingly, as moral codes are loosened and we gain more supposed freedom, crime, rape, murder and social disorder arises. As culture fails, the apes return.

Light Emissaries

When we contemplate the adversarial view of prehistory with malefic alien forms controlling man for their own purposes, different perspectives become possible. The available evidence can be understood from many different vantage points. Gnostics and some Christians may interpret this on a more spiritual level, with dominions and principalities, demons and demi-gods replacing the “little green men”. For the very scientifically minded researcher, we could even replace aliens and demons with complexes and unconscious social control mechanisms (Memes), ultimately the symbol system is irrelevant. This model could then be extended to explain the role of such figures as Zoroaster, Krishna, Jesus, Gautama (Buddha) etc.

As mans consciousness began to expand he rejected the “social control religions” and tried to make it on his own. However, he was unaware that the forces that created these paradigms of control also started his mind on its journey of development. Accordingly, an immense conflict evolved. When man rejects tyranny, his

instincts take over and a new tyranny, one of ape violence, comes into effect. Man is caught in a vicious cycle.

Thus, the forces of light, which exist beyond the contamination of matter, decided to intervene. Over many millions of years they sent emissaries to explain to man his real constitution and the conflicting nature of his being. Each avatar taught that man is a hybrid, a mixture of fallen matter and light stuff. Man is a split being – Animal, Intellect and Spirit, each with it own agenda and programming. The physical organism is made of fallen matter and its programming is that of an ape, it is ruled by the "Selfish Gene" and is innately violent and destructive. In some sense it has its own consciousness, we could perhaps call it the "GE" – genetic entity. The mind is another problem, it was created as a modification to the brain but has evolved into something more. It has facets (the brain stem) which hark back to its original nature and yet has advanced nodes, which offer interface to the spirit. It is a collection of false selves, sub identities and personas. It craves domination and works best under control, whether by a cult, ism or by TV and computer games. To liberate it is painful yet necessary. The emissaries of light have been giving man "wake-ups calls" for millions of years, yet man does not listen. As soon as the emissaries die, sometimes even before, their messages are distorted and become part of the "social control mechanism".

Aliens, DNA and Beyond

Ultimately it does not matter how we perceive our masters, whether we believe the extra-terrestrial traditions of our origins or see them in more religious, psychological or scientific terms. The point of reference for all these paradigms is spiritual, if the aliens created slaves, it was under the influence and control of greater and more malefic spiritual powers and dominions. The clear fact is that matter is fallen, nature is a trap and mans real self is locked in an eternal game. As we move further and further into the Kali Yuga, the age of blood and iron, the game becomes more and more vicious. The "Selfish Gene" is far more malleable than we care to realise, since it is an intrusion from a spiritual reality, it can transform and change according to new challenges.

In the distant past the "Selfish Gene" realised man could not be controlled by the genetic entity alone, so it evolved new gene-like structures to control the mind, Memes. A Meme is a virus of the mind.

> Meme: (pron. 'meem') A contagious idea that replicates like a virus, passed on from mind to mind. Memes function the same way genes and viruses do, propagating through communication networks and face-to-face contact between people
>
> David S. Bennahum.

Memes create and mould consciousness so as to fulfil the directive of the original DNA program. Memes transform meaningful social movements into bureaucracy, and take ideals and turn them into commodities. They take transformational technologies and turn them into mechanisms of control. TV, Computer Games, Sport – all have become means to stop man really using his mind to any spiritual end by keeping his mind absorbed and controlled. The whole of our culture is based on this premise, all thought must be controlled, albeit covertly, so that freedom is impossible. Democracy is simply the choice between different paradigms of control. Isms, cults and ologies offer further mechanisms of control, which seem outside of the structure and yet are really part of it.

Where do we go from here?

The model of mans nature presented by sociobiology and by Gnosticism is dark and difficult, it is not a model that at first sight does much to encourage us. Our lower vehicles (physical and mental) are legacies of the creation by the Archons and the true self is locked far away in a prison of material and mental substance. At the same time, however, it is imperative that we are honest with ourselves and see clearly, brutally, honestly what we are, so we can comprehend what we can become. The model thus far we have outlined has given a good outline of the origins of our various structures, now, we need to refine these models somewhat further and look at the intricacies of our various vehicles, vessels and bodies.

The Constitution of Man

When we discuss the nature of man it then becomes imperative that we really understand what man is. In the early Hebrew esoteric traditions on which the Bible was based, man is a complex being. He is composed of various differing bodies or levels, each of which represents a specific strata of activity within his nature and

each of which has a differing origin and goal. The structure of man is basically fourfold as is the custom with the Hebrew system as it relates to the four worlds and the four letters of the sacred formula (See Fig 14). As intimated earlier, this very formula is the one that was twisted to become the name of the Old Testament Demiurge Yahweh (or as misconstrued in English, Jehovah).

The Four worlds may also be related to various traditional hierarchies of deity as well as to a wide range of other symbol systems (four elements etc.). Development from these characteristics formulate other natures, such as the Neschamah and Chiah. Before we advance further we should examine these characteristics in some detail.

The Guph

The Guph is the physical body and its related electro-magnetic field. It has no innate immortality and returns to the earth at death. (In pre-Fall man the Guph was simply an electro-magnetic field with no related physical organism).

The Nephesh

The Nephesh is roughly defined as the instinctual bodies. It can be divided into upper and lower forms and these could be related to the Astral body and the Etheric body. These bodies are the energy fields which invigorate and control the physical organism and which relay commands from the mental complex (Ruach).

The Kabbalistic Structure of Man

Body	Description.	World & Description.	Formula.
Yechidah.	Potential Self	Atziluth - Word of Gods.	Yod.
Ruach.	Personality.	Briah - Creative World.	He
Nephesh.	Instincts.	Yetzirah - Etheric World.	Vau.
Guph.	Physical Body.	Assiah - Physical World.	He.

Fig 14

The Ruach

The Ruach is the mental complex or mind. In the understanding of modern psychology it represents all facets of the unconscious right through to the thinking or conscious mind. It includes the personality and all its related characteristics.

The Chiah and Neschamah

As part of the Ruach exist the deep unconscious forms of Chiah and Neschamah. These may be related to the Animus and Anima of Jungian psychology and represent the deepest levels of the personal unconscious where the dualities of Force and Form, male and female, body and mind etc. originate.

The Yechidah

The Yechidah is the potentially immortal part of man and in mans fallen state does not come into action naturally. The average human experiences life through his instincts (the soul) and through his mind (Ruach). The Soul and Mind while of importance, cannot offer a truly discrete, individual self. Ultimately, death, after a cycle of lives and many lost opportunities, becomes the end for most people. Only through the awakening of the Yechidah can immortality be achieved. According to the Valentinian tradition however, only Psychics and Pneumatics have the Yechidah or Lightspark within them and hence the potential for liberation. The average man on the street is a Hylic and does not have this potential, but lets be honest, what he does not have, he does not miss.

When man was expelled from the First Estate and into the fallen physical world of matter, he lost his right to immortality and hence became truly mortal. His true self, which had evolved through many cycles was contaminated by the fall and could not survive in his fallen body. Accordingly, his Yechidah or self became powerless, locked in a fallen vehicle and exists now only as a spark of light, a potential. The Lord of Wisdom, however, did not give up, he outlined a plan by which man could gain immortality again and re-awaken his original self. This plan was comprised of a process of transformation called Transfiguration, it is described in the Bible as being “born again”. The Transfiguration process offered two paths. The Path of the Dove

The Theosophical and Rosicrucian Structure of Man.

Four Bodies.	Seven Bodies (Theosophy).	Seven Bodies (Rosicrucian).
Yechidah.	Supreme Self.	Higher Forms of Being.
Yechidah.	Mediator Self.	Higher Forms of Being.
Ruach.	Spiritual Soul.	Divine Spirit.
Ruach.	Higher or Intuitive Soul.	LifeSpirit. (Higher Thought)
Nephesh.	Instinctual Body.(Prana)	Lower Thought.
Nephesh.	Astral Body (Three Aspects).	Desire Body
Guph.	Physical Body.	Dense & Vital Body.

Fig 15

which redeems man from death and the Path of the Serpent which includes the mechanism by which man can awaken his divinity and be deified, in other words, the process of becoming a Christ.

This Salvation process involves a spiritual technology whereby man is reborn in the image of the Pleroma and the Ruach is united with the re-awakened Yechidah. The Yechidah, using the energies of the Ruach and Nephesh is re-developed and the True self of man is revealed. The impersonal electricity, which invigorates a person, is changed into an eternal, discrete, individual, reflecting the glory of the Stars. So, yes man is mortal, but there is hope, there is an opportunity for immortality. It is important however to realise that immortality is conditional. Man has no right to immortality. His constitution is innately, because of the fall, mortal and contaminated and only by the power of The Christ can it be changed into a immortal being, who reflects the majesty and beauty of the Treasury of Light.

Now you have a fairly clear picture of the basic elements of the Nature of Man. However, as we study further you will find that a more comprehensive and descriptive understanding is required. Just like we had a basic Kabbalistic structure of four worlds and these were expanded into Seven Planes, so the Basic Four bodies can be expanded into Seven. These can be easily correlated to the traditional Four bodies but simply give far more detail. (See Fig 15)

The Seven Bodies

The Self

This exists only in potential. It is the Pneumatic Light Spark hidden within the Ruach until awakened by Transfiguration.

The Mediator Self

This is the nature which is the go-between in regards to the Spiritual Soul and the True Self. It is the mechanism by which the True Self is awakened and by collecting information from the Spiritual Soul becomes truly individual. Both the Self and Mediator Self are only awakened through Transfiguration.

The Spiritual Soul or Divine Spirit

This is the nature which evolves and gains experience and transmits that these experiences from life to life. It has also been known as the Buddhi as it has a semi-immortal memory and exists for the period of an evolutionary cycle. In a practical sense, this is the Self of most of humanity during any given lifetime.

Higher Human Soul, Life Spirit or Higher Thought Body

This is the Higher Mind.

The Instinctual Body, Pranic Body or Lower Thought Force

This is the psychic energy which radiates through the organism. It is sometimes also known as Od, Prana or Psychic energy. It also encompasses facets of the lower mind.

Astral or Desire Body

This is the electro magnetic field which surrounds the physical organism.

It has three basic levels:

① The Etheric Skin.

This clings to the physical organism, somewhat like a second skin. This creates the light layer at the edge of the body.

② The Inner Aura.

This occupies the first six to ten inches of the energy field and expands in proportion to the outer astral body.

③ The Outer Aura.

This extends beyond the physical organism and can, at times, be a metre wide depending on your spiritual development.

The astral or desire body has also been known as the Double Imago (Doppleganger or Body double) as it mimics the physical body and can, though esoteric techniques, be temporally separated from the body and used for astral travel.

The Physical or Vital Body

Sometimes the Etheric Skin is included in this category.

> All men as to the interiors which belong to the mind are spirit clothed in a world with material body. Which is in every sense subject to the thought of the spirit and to the decision of its affections. For the mind which is spirit acts, and the body which is material, is acted upon.
>
> Athanasaian Creed,
>
> Emanuel Swedenborg.

The Psyche and the Bodies

If we consider the concepts of modern psychology then we can easily understand the meaning of these seven bodies. (See Fig 16) Jung particularly offers us some possible correlations, if we accept that the Super-conscious Mind (the deepest state) is the True Self, then the various levels from the Mediator Self to the Instinctual body could be related to aspects of the Collective Unconscious. A possible stratification could be made linking these levels from the Personal Link to the Collective Unconscious through to Collective, National, Archetypal levels. The Astral or desire body would be related to the Unconscious mind, while the physical body would link to the conscious mind. The varying views regarding the value of the unconscious can be understood in terms of the Fallen and unfallen contents in these strata, for example, Freud's view of the unconscious as a pit of vicious complexes certainly fits well with our view of the World of the Archons. While Jung's view of the unconscious as a Well of potential or a river of power may be related to the qualities of the Static currents existing behind the fallen dimensions. The Neschamah and Chiah as found in the Hebrew descriptions may also be related to various levels of Anima and Animus (Passive and Active) modes within the strata of the Mind. While obviously such correlations are tentative they certainly offer ideas for consideration. We hope by now you have a good overview of the nature of Man, his bodies and their relations to psychological and spiritual worldviews. As can be clearly seen, these can be related to both the Hebrew-Kabbalistic and the Seven Body system and

Possible Model for Psychological Plane Correlation

Hebrew Title.	Rosicrucian Title.	Psychological Attribute.
Yechidah.	Supreme Self.	Super Consciousness
Yechidah.	Mediator Self.	Archetypal Unconscious.
Ruach.	Spiritual Soul.	Racial Unconscious.
Ruach.	Higher or Intuitive Soul.	Group Unconscious.
Nephesh.	Instinctual Body. Prana.	Collective Unconscious.
Nephesh.	Astral Body.	Personal Unconscious.

Fig 16

they in turn can be related to the corresponding World system.
As we contemplate the nature of man in all its complexities, many questions arise...

What actually happens to man after death?
What is his destiny?
What about Hell and Heaven ?
What about Reincarnation?

Chapter Eight: The Truth about Immortality

Conditional Immortality and Reincarnation

The aim of life is to offer man a chance to gain salvation, to enter the path of Transfiguration. Since the fall of man The Lord of Wisdom has outlined an escape route, a path by which man may awaken the Yechidah and grasp the gift of immortality. And immortality is a gift, in all mythologies we find a quest for immortality, a trial that leads to a reward of life eternal. In the twelve labours of Hercules we have a series of initiations which lead to eternal life, while in the quest for the Golden Fleece (of immortality) we have Jason overcoming immense odds to grasp it. The Lord in his wisdom offers man many chances to gain immortality and these chances take place in many lives. Reincarnation within Gnostic thought is not the same as it is within eastern philosophy. Reincarnation occurs within a limited period and offers the opportunity for immortality, it is not an immortal soul gaining experience but a *mortal* "self" being offered opportunity on opportunity to enter the spiritual path. Reincarnation is also limited in time, while we do not know the number of lives or opportunities man is given, the Lifestreams have limited time allotments after which the cycle is completed and unredeemed lifesparks cease to individually exist, unless they have been re-awakened by Transfiguration.

Now you may react by arguing that there is no Biblical authority for reincarnation. However, I am afraid that you would be very, very wrong. In the early Christian Church there were many that taught reincarnation. Clement of Alexandria, Origen, Jerome, Gregoras, Augustine and Irenaeus - to name but a few. It was only during the Council of Nicea in 325 AD that the concept of reincarnation became unpopular and this was coupled with the development of teachings regarding the Trinity, Eternal Hellfire, purgatory and other dogma's which were imported into the Church for political reasons by Emperor Constantine. It was only in AD 553 at the Second

Council of Constantinople that reincarnation was finally and formally condemned.

In regards to Scripture itself it is obvious that Church copyists have removed many of the classic reincarnation references, however, references still do occur if you look closely and carefully analyse what you read.

In the Book of Revelation we have an exciting description of what will occur at the end of the earth cycle when the "born again", the spiritually transformed enter the New Kingdom. As part of the description the following is outlined....

> Him that overcometh will I make a pillar in the temple of my God, and he shall go no more out: and I will write upon him the name of my God, and the name of the city of my God, which is new Jerusalem, which cometh down out of heaven from my God: and I will write upon him my new name.
>
> **Revelation 3:12**

This verse clearly explains that those who have overcome (that is those who completed their spiritual development), will become a pillar in the temple of God and he shall go out no more, that is, he will reincarnate no longer. This is obviously the message intended in this verse.

Also when we examine the Gospels we find Jesus asking the disciples, who do they think I am ? You would think that when the disciples answer in terms of reincarnation that if this was incorrect Jesus would certainly correct them ! Surely he would not let them continue in their ignorance ! But no, Jesus accepts what they say but simply corrects them in regards to his own identity !

> When Jesus came into the coasts of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, saying, Whom do men say that I the Son of man am?
>
> And they said, Some say that thou art John the Baptist: some, Elias; and others, Jeremias, or one of the prophets. He saith unto them, But whom say ye that I am? And Simon Peter answered and said, Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God.
>
> **Matthew 16:13**

We can then continue and note that in Matthew 17:10-13 Jesus informs them that he could not be Elias as Elias has already returned as John the Baptist ! (But I say unto you that Elias is come already and they knew him not). This is very obviously a description of reincarnation. Another excellent example is the commentary on Luke 12:58-59 offered by Carpocrates, a Gnostic leader from the Third Century.

> As you are going with your adversary to the magistrate, try hard to be reconciled to him on the way, or he may drag you off to the judge, and the judge turn you over to the officer, and the officer throw you into prison. I tell you, you will not get out until you have paid the last penny.
> **Luke 12:58,9.**

Carpocrates explains that the true meaning of this tale is that the opponent is the Demiurge, Lord of the Archons and that the jail is the body (the fallen material world) itself. No one can escape reincarnation until all earthly actions have been experienced.

Rather than continuing to analyse each verse one by one, let me just give you a couple by themselves to consider.

> But they which shall be accounted worthy to obtain that world, and the resurrection from the dead, neither marry, nor are given in marriage: Neither can they die any more: for they are equal unto the angels; and are the children of God, being the children of the resurrection. Now that the dead are raised, even Moses shewed at the bush, when he calleth the Lord the God of Abraham, and the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob.
> **Luke 20:35-37.**

> But thou, Bethlehem Ephratah, though thou be little among the thousands of Judah, yet out of thee shall he come forth unto me that is to be ruler in Israel; whose goings forth have been from of old, from everlasting.
> **Micah 5:2**

I think from these references it becomes quite clear that reincarnation was taught by the early Gnostic Christian church and even though the Bible has gone through constant editing and rewriting reincarnation still survives into the modern translations.

The Mechanism of Reincarnation

To understand the way in which reincarnation works we have to examine the effects of our actions. Now, in generally held Christian views there is a belief that actions do not have an effect, we ask for forgiveness and all is gone. This is obviously not correct, every action has an effect. Even if the moral (and the If is big !) punishment was removed from an act by asking for forgiveness the natural effect of that act remains ! (For example, I get Hepatitis from a heroin injection, while I may be forgiven for damaging my temporal physical vehicle, I still have to deal with the disease !) This process of cause and effect is found in many different traditions, in some forms of eastern philosophy it is known as Sanskaras or Karma.

> If a soul when it has entered the body persists in evil it does not taste the fruits of life eternal, but is dragged back again, it reverses it courses and takes its way back to creeping things and that illfated soul having failed to know itself, lives in servitude to uncouth and noxious bodies, in this doom are vicious souls condemned.
>
> **Hermes**.

In the western tradition it is figuratively called The Book of Judgement. This book is a balance sheet of the actions of the person as he reincarnates. As time progresses the positive and negative attributes of a person's life weigh against each other and the person continues to reincarnate. At various stages the balance will reach a crucial stage and accordingly the circumstances of a persons life will drastically change to give them a further opportunity to enter Transfiguration. These opportunities continue until the Omega Day when the cycle draws to a close. In exceptional circumstances, if after various opportunities an entity continues to commit heinous acts, then at the ending of that life the person returns to Hades (the Grave) and will sleep until the Omega Day so that his evil is contained. If, however, a person does

embark on the Path of Transfiguration then major changes occur. The slow and steady transformation of the Ruach into Yechidah begins (this process is called Transfiguration) and the born again persons name is figuratively transferred to the Book of life. No longer is a record kept of action and reaction, but a record of growth and spiritual transformation.

> He that overcometh, the same shall be clothed in white raiment; and I will not blot out his name out of the book of life, but I will confess his name before my Father, and before his angels.
>
> Revelation 3:5

> Transfigurism aims at nothing more nor less than demolition of the old microcosm, including the lower and higher self and building a totally new lower and high self, from the root substance of the original kingdoms .
>
> The Coming Revolution,
>
> J.Van Rijckenborgh.

The mechanism and aim of reincarnation is clear. Reincarnation is a process by which The Lord of Wisdom uses the experiences of our lives to awaken us to his spiritual truth. The opportunities for liberation are limited and the clock of cause and effect (The Book of Judgement) is ticking away. If we ignore the opportunities enough, then at the Omega day we may end up simply ceasing to exist. If we accept the opportunity, then our names are transferred to the Book of Life and our transformation begins.

Jacobs Ladder

> And Jacob went out from Beersheba, and went toward Haran. And he lighted upon a certain place, and tarried there all night, because the sun was set; and he took of the stones of that place, and put them for his pillows, and lay down in that place to sleep.

> And he dreamed, and behold a ladder set up on the earth, and the top of it reached to heaven: and behold the angels of God ascending and descending on it.
>
> Genesis 28:10-13

The iconography of Jacob's ladder is central to our understanding of the spiritual current as it manifests on earth. The image of the ladder is reflected in many other religious and cultural symbols such as the ascent and descent from the sacred mountain, the Pyramid and the ladder, rope or stalk that reaches into the heavens. The image in Biblical terms is quite descriptive and hence serves our purpose, even though it had been adapted to the Old Testament theology it still has a residue of its original meaning. As we read that " the angels of God are ascending and descending on it " we get an image, a symbol. One which reflects the spiritual processes which occur on Earth and this ' ascending and descending ' is central to our understanding of the role that the many different religions and races have on earth today.

The earth itself is fallen, it is a world caught beyond the confines of the Treasury of light and within its grip are " the divine particles " (souls) that are working to extricate themselves. This is the nucleus of the Gnostic vision. To liberate ourselves from the fallen worlds, we must awaken; the particles of light must be freed from within the frozen wastelands. Jacob's ladder is a symbolic representation of the developmental plan for earth, the various races, cultures and religions are all unique and each are varied. Each carries a different " quotient " or " allotment " of light and hence each has its own position on the ladder of development. Each group-mind has a special experience; a special learning to offer the evolving light-spark. While certainly the ladder is seen as vertical and we may accept that some group-minds are more evolved than others, egoism and prejudice do not suit the spiritual path, each culture, religion and race has its place within the sacred ladder and the ladder cannot function with missing rungs. Without the lower there is no higher and vice versa. In some sense the rungs could be seen as modes of specialisation and this, of course, brings to mind the image of the Mandala and the spiral. The various " rungs " are smaller circles within a greater circles, all leading towards the centre. The

spiral can be just as expressive, all religions and cultures are points on a spiral which is turning inwards towards the centre. Whether we use the ladder or the Spiral, the Mandala or perhaps even other images of the evolutionary process, the essential wisdom is the same.

I realise it is perhaps politically naive to try and escape the howling charge of racism or even Eurocentrism, however, clearly, the traditions of western civilisation are more developed that the Totemic rites of a tribe from the Congo. However, both have their allotments of light, both have their part to play in the liberation of man,and both must function and exist for Jacob's ladder to operate correctly.

The process of spiritual evolution is difficult and treacherous, the fallen worlds are a dangerous place to be. While there are forces calling us to return to the " Treasury of Light ", there are other forces dragging us deeper and deeper into the mires of matter. As there are forces working to liberate the particles of light, so there are forces creating " mind traps " to ensnare unready souls. The ladder of evolution takes a particle through experiences that create Gnosis, wisdom (more than simple knowledge) and this Gnosis allows the developed soul to escape from the lower worlds and return home. However, all is not as it seems. As the Archons, lords of the lower worlds, created games of increasing complexity, the particles of light became more and more enmeshed in the lower worlds. These particles began to confuse matter with spirit and light with darkness resulting in the Lifestreams of earth degenerating further and further into matter. This period of great degeneration is known as the Kali Yuga, and the earth has entered this period with a vengeance.

One of the greatest traps set by the Archons has been to destroy the Ladder of development, to hinder man's quest up the Holy Mountain by destroying the uniqueness of each culture, race and religion. The tendency towards syncretism and ecumenicalism and the mixing of cultures and races, rather than enriching mankind is actually destroying the uniqueness of each culture. When two racial groups mix they cannot hope to understand the essence of the other collective mind and hence the integrity, the beauty, the uniqueness of that race is lost. Accordingly, under the guise of tolerance, understanding and openness we have actually destroyed the integrity of the races living on planet earth and with them the group minds which

function on the ladder of Life. This destruction is found in every case where cultures, races and religions attempt to mix. Take, for example, Native Americans. As they attempted to merge with (white) American culture, they lost their spiritual traditions and their unique way of life, and only now have they begun to reclaim the tattered remains of their heritage. When races, religions and cultures mix, souls incarnate in confusion. The required body within a racial group-mind may not be available, and rather than learning what is required, the soul is confused by mixed signals, which are inherent within the forms that result from the intermingling of traditions. This is one of the greatest traps set by the Archons, and as we enter the Kali Yuga it is certainly working well.

The second trap is far more insidious and just as destructive. The western Group-mind should have been one of the most spiritually developed on the ladder and yet it is not, why not ? Western man has all the advantages of technology, academic institutions, scholarship and more, yet his culture is racked with violence, destruction and alienation. The reason for this state of decay is that the Archons have created a trap within the Western group mind itself. Since they knew it was not possible to stop the development of western man they did the second best thing, sabotaged his group-mind.

By careful planning and manipulation the Archons replaced the healthy archetypes of the Israelite Mysteries and Gnosticism with the twisted mind-traps of Judaism and Christianity. Using cunning and manipulation, they replaced the authentic technologies and mystical practises of Israel with the Talmudic ramblings of the Jews. They replaced the beauty and power of the direct experience of God (Gnosis) with the frustrated perversion of fundamentalism. It was with these distortions that the group mind of Western man was twisted and corrupted. Heading towards 2000, European civilisation is a cesspool of destruction and despair.

Present day systems of thought have been soiled beyond recognition, they have degenerated to such an extent that rather than leading man to freedom, they are leading man deeper and deeper into matter. The real spiritual call is alien to man because his society, our society is anti-light, anti-life; a web of dark forces

clutched tightly at the throat of spirit.

Together these two mind-traps have distorted the ladder of man's evolution, each has removed the integrity and power of the group-mind which make up " Jacob's ladder ". Each has destroyed races, religions, cultures and if we are not careful, all of mankind.

The Kali Yuga is accelerating and there are two potential outcomes. One encompasses the whole system, whilst the other focuses on the individual. Mankind has become so enmeshed in the fallen kingdom that many, maybe even most, of the particles of light cannot be liberated. Accordingly, the light particles will become permanently and eternally corrupted. The energy of the earth will be turned against itself and the planetary sphere will become a vortex of torture, pain and death.

This state is so extreme that even now we can only experience but a brief glimpse of it during our worst nightmares. If this occurs, the light kingdoms will surround the fallen world in a globe of fire and utterly destroy it - without mercy.

Unfortunately, this is all that can be salvaged if mankind continues on his present path. It seems likely that this impending disaster cannot be avoided. While individual sparks of light will be liberated and reach the "Treasury", the world scheme on a whole will not be liberated and impending destruction is inevitable. Whether we read of Christ returning with fire as the great Judge, or Vishnu with his flaming sword, all the great traditions agree the end (Omega Day) will feature a period of destruction and subsequent Judgement. As the Kali Yuga gains pace and the net of the Archons closes in tighter and tighter around the particles of light, it is imperative that we awaken and liberate ourselves from the fallen kingdoms.

Heaven and Hell

Having studied this far you still may have many questions regarding the Gnostic view of reincarnation, and you may wonder about the Judaic and Christian views regarding Heaven and Hell. Accordingly, we shall examine them for a moment.

Heaven and Hell are symbols, within the Bible there is clearly more than meets the eye when we consider the various Hebrew and Greek terms used for them. The problem that arises when critically considering Heaven and Hell in the Biblical text is the problem of textual distortion. One of the easiest ways to come to an honest understanding is to let the original terms speak for themselves.

For example, there are many different terms for Hell. Like the many differing names of God, the various modern copyists have tended to use one word in numerous locations, where in reality there are multiple words in the original Hebrew or Greek, which each offer many possible interpretations.

Hell on Earth

The term Sheol is used a lot in the Bible and as used in the Old testament can be interchanged with Grave, Pit, and Abode of the Dead. It is used to describe the state of the dead in relation to earth. The dead have no consciousness in relation to earth as they have returned to it ! The Grave or the state of being dead (without consciousness) is used to represent the lack of awareness the reincarnating soul has of the earth sphere. Time and time again this term is used to refer to cessation of activity and not in reference to an eternal fire or to any " spiritual realm ".

> Hell - First it stands for the Hebrew Sheol of the Old Testament and the Greek Hades of the Septuagint and the New Testament. Sheol in Old Testament times referred simply to the abode of the dead and suggested no moral distinctions, the word Hell as understood today, is not a happy translation.
>
> Colliers Encyclopaedia, 1986 Vol. 12 PG 28.

The Term Hades is the New Testament equivalent of the Hebrew Sheol and therefore has the same meaning - the Grave or in esoteric terms, the astral plane or Archon wasteland where a soul resides between incarnations and returns to earth again and again and again. The general tone of these Biblical terms are negative, that is, that the process of returning to the grave and returning back to earth is painful and destructive, from a Gnostic perspective this is certainly true. The other

term regularly used for hell explains this even better, Gehenna (used in the New Testament) has a very specific meaning and symbolism. It literally refers to the valley of Hinnom and hence can only be understood in the context of what this valley represented. The Valley of Hinnom was located outside the walls of Jerusalem and was a large rubbish dump. Fires were triggered by the adding of sulphur so that the rubbish could be burnt up.

> It became the common lay stall of the city, where the dead bodies of criminals and the carcasses of animals and every other kind of filth was cast..
>
> Smith's Bible Dictionary.

It is such an apt description of the fallen world of the Archons in which we are forced to reincarnate - criminals, carcasses of animals and every kind of filth. When we die, the body is eaten by animals or burnt by sulphur, or in more modern terms, cremated or buried and our soul then again must return. This sort of eternal re-occurance, “hell on earth” is the iconography of Hades, Sheol and Gehenna, it is the real meaning of Hell. It is not some eternal location to which we are damned in the future, indeed, in the Gnostic tradition, the end of those not awakened is simply oblivion, nothingness, ceasing to exist. If there is any hell with torture and gnashing of teeth it is the world in which are now caged.

What is Heaven ?

The concept of heaven does, for many, seem central to their understanding of Christian thought. It has been a constant re-assurance that the dearly departed have gone straight to heaven to be with God. However, when we critically examine the Scriptures so many problems arise with this heavenly understanding. It seems that when we critically examine the Heaven that the Archon Yahweh offers, it is not all that it seems. Again, let us consider the terms involved in the original language. To begin with let us examine the primary term used for Heaven.

The Hebrew **Shamayim** (always used in the plural) is translated ‘heavens’, but basically means high or lofty. It is used to refer to the atmosphere of earth (such as

in Deut 4:17, Proverbs 30:19), outer space (Heb 11:12, Isa 13:10), the sky (Isa 45:8) and a range of other localities. The term is also used to refer to the astral worlds. Though this term is used in a variety of ways, when it is used in reference to mankind it has a specific and important meaning.

One of the major meanings is within the concept of rulership, even ownership. High and lofty relates to the idea that the Archon Yahweh is the "Most High" or Lord of the Heavens. Heaven in this case represents the levels which start with the earthly sky and reach into the astral, and this gives us a clue we cannot ignore. What is suggested here is important, for it intimates the nature of the heavenly being described and the heaven being indicated. In this case the heaven is the **fallen dimensions of the Archon's Wasteland.** The ruler of this kingdom is clearly the Demiurge. It is very interesting to compare the descriptions n the New Testament with those of the old, in the New Testament Satan is called the lord of the air, the ruler of the atmosphere around the earth. So we get an indication that there is something not right with the view of Heaven we are being sold.

If we understand that the term heavens specifically relates to the various fallen planes of existence (physical and otherwise) as ruled and governed by the Archon Yahweh. From this we can begin to get an intimation of how the term applies to mankind. Heaven, in relation to man, is a con ! It refers to some sort of astral location where the Archon has set up his kingdom and throne, it also refers to a restored state of earth as though a constant,. reoccuring physical earth is where we should be. The whole Old Testament paradigm of Heaven is a contradiction. For the Gnostic, the terms used are ambiguous at very best.

We see that the Old Testament heaven is really the Kingdom of the Archons and that the physical resurrection it promises is repugnantly material at best. In the New Testament, Heaven has a more spiritual and celestial orientation, and this is what we would expect. As intimated in our studies thus far, there is a clash and contradiction between the two Bibles which even good editing cannot cover. The original terms seem certainly to make that plain. The Heaven of Jesus and the Gnosis is the Treasury of Light and the destruction of all material things so everything can return to its original form. The Heaven of the Archon Yahweh is a material earth despotically ruled from his astral kingdom.

The Mystery of Deification

Having considered reincarnation, Heaven and Hell and the nature of spiritual development on earth the question will probably arise.

What is the aim of this spiritual process ?

To understand this is to focus on a central issue in the teachings of the Gnosis, that of the **Mysteries**. To appreciate the esoteric or Mystery teachings that are at the centre of Gnosticism we need to understand that the Gnosis is a progressive revelation. The Lord of Wisdom reveals to man knowledge (Gnosis) only as man is capable and willing to receive it. Certainly the knowledge that the Lord revealed to Moses was more advanced than that he revealed to Abraham and certainly the teachings of Jesus to his twelve disciples was different from that which he gave to the multitudes. In recent studies it has been discovered that Jesus laid the ground-work for the imparting of the Mysteries in the secret teachings he gave to his disciples, but even at his death did not believe they were ready for the inner mysteries. It now seems likely that these teachings, known as The Mysteries, were imparted to James, the Brother of Jesus and then to the other disciples. Over and over again St.Paul intimates that there is a special knowledge: The Mystery (Ephesians 3.3), The Mystery of Christ (Ephesians 3:4), The Mystery of his Will (;9), The Great Mystery (5:32), The Mystery of Christ (Colossians 2;2), The fellowship of the Mystery (Ephesians 3;9) and so on. Paul tells us in Ephesians 3:9 that the Mystery had been hid in God and that it had been a secret from the beginning of the world.

> The Mystery which has been hid from ages and from generations, but now made manifest to his saints.
>
> Ephesians 1:26

> Now to him that is of power to stablish you according to my gospel, and the preaching of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery, which was kept secret since the world began, But now is made manifest, and by the Scriptures of the prophets, according to the

> commandment of the everlasting God, made known to all nations for the obedience of faith.
>
> Romans 16:25,6

This Mystery is the opportunity for the deification of Adamic man. It is the secret whereby Adamic man may become part deified. He may return to the Pleroma awakened and in a state of divininity. It is clear that this path is not for all of Adam's children or Israel, but for a select number, the Psyhics and Pneumatics.

> For many are called, but few [are] chosen.
>
> Matthew 22:14

As we re-read so many of the passages of the New Testament with this in mind we can see so clearly what is being indicated. We have the potential to become Christ's or better, we can become Christ, we can become one body, one family, the fullness of the Pleroma.

> We shall be "partakers of the divine nature".
>
> II Peter 1:4.

> We have many members in one body, and all members have not the same office, so we being many are one body in Christ and every one members of one another .
>
> Romans 12:4,5.

An interesting quote in this regards is made by one of the fathers of the early Church, Eusebius, who had the following to say...

> The Word of God (Christ) is now God as he had been man, in order to deify mankind together with himself .
>
> Demonstratio Evangelica, IV:14.

Other early Church fathers, partakers of the Mystery, also commented on the matter...

> That a man, by keeping the directions of God, may receive from him immortality as a reward and become God.
>
> Ad Autol. II:27,
>
> Theophilus.

> Thy body shall be immortal and incorruptible as well as thy soul. For thou hast become God.
>
> Hippolytus.

> For Christ was made man that we might be God.
>
> De Incar,
>
> Athanasius.

The Nature of Theosis (Deification)

Central to the Gnostic understanding of humanity is the belief that it is possible for man to become part of the God-Family (Elohim). While mankind as a whole may seem to be in a pretty dismal state at present, the Gnostics have always taught that it is possible for the "particles of light" to be redeemed, and for those who seek, to find the Treasury of Light. This doctrine of Theosis or deification has been a major part of the Mystery tradition since the earliest days and has survived, albeit, in modified form, to the present in both the exoteric and esoteric traditions.

The concept of deification is found in the earliest religious systems, the rites of Kingship in both Sumeria and Egypt centred on the king being initiated through a secret rite of death and rebirth so that he could become a mediator between his people and God. As the mediator he was considered divine and was imputed with the symbols of divinity. In these early periods the way in which humanity contacted

the higher worlds was through the Priest/King, in these theocracies individuals could not be deified in their own right, but achieved the power to develop and grow through the mediatorship of the divine Priest/King. While certainly the morality of these kings varied and so did the focus of their mediatoship (Archon and Aenonic), the principle remained, nevertheless, the same and the tradition continued. As the ages rolled on, mankind's interaction with the spiritual worlds changed, rather than theocracies non-theistic political systems developed and the role of mediator was replaced by the priest, shaman or wiseperson. Through death and rebirth rites the priest achieved a state of power whereby s/he was able to mediate between the spiritual and physical worlds. At this stage we can see that individual Theosis was still far in the future, mediatorship was embodied in the Prophet, Priest, Shaman or wiseperson. The rites of Kingship and priesthood were kept secret and at first only passed via brotherhoods, cults and orders, however later they were also transmitted to individual priests and shamans who qualified but were outside the "monastic" system. Theosis at these early stages involved collective as well as individual gnosis, the land and the king, for example, in the Celtic tradition were intricately connected. In ancient Israel the people could only be cleansed by the Priest entering the Holy of Holies once a year and undertaking secret rites on behalf of his people.

A natural development after the mediating priest was the achievement of the individual right to deification. However, this involved spiritual as well as psychological changes. Man could not just develop the right to be deified, the Lord of Wisdom had to reach into the lower worlds and change the nature of the mystical path. Through the work of Jesus and James the Just, a religious transformation occurred and mankind was given the right to enter the Kingdom of Light. In the past some individuals had been able to achieve Theosis (Enoch walked with God and was not), but these were unique cases and were above and beyond the norm. In preparation for the work of Jesus and James, the Qumran community (the Essenes) had been formed, the teacher of righteousness began to outline the requirements for individual Theosis and this became the Mystery teachings of the Essenes. Other mystery cults undertook similar preparation. In terms of Israel, the older Covenant between Yahweh and his people had developed from divine Kigship through a period of prophets and mediators to the individual mystical

training required for personal Theosis.
The Essenes rejecting the apostate forms of Talmudic Judaism, separated themselves into the deserts and began preparation for the great change which was to occur. They understood that there were to be two Messiahs, a King (Davidic) and a Priestly. Today these two Messiahs have been misunderstood and the concept of Messiah or Christ has been distorted. In ancient Israel the Christ or Messiah was not one individual, it was a state of consciousness, a role and a task. The Davidic Messiah was the King who was expected to liberate Israel from its prison, while the Priestly Messiah was to give Israel a new spiritual impetus.

These two roles need to be carefully considered. In present scholarship there is a tendency to confuse Edomite/Talmudic forms of Judaism with the Ariosophic forms of the Israelite Mysteries. Accordingly, the King Messiah tends to be seen in purely political and revolutionary terms, while certainly there is a political element to the message of the Davidic Messiah we must realise that since matter is fallen, for the Messiah to save Israel as a whole (as a collective of particles of light), the physical world must be destroyed ! This is why there is such an apocalyptic emphasis in Essene and Gnostic literature, for the Davidic Messiah to complete his task all matter must be annihilated. Accordingly, the role of the Davidic Messiah was to prepare Israel for a new interpretation of the Kingdom of God, Jesus as the Davidic Messiah illustrated how individual Theosis was possible. For through individual Theosis the particles of light may be liberated and at the Omega Day all light retrieved from matter. By his deat and resurrection (whether literal or as a Mystery enactment) he embodied the old rites of Kingship and taught how individuals through death and rebirth could become deified.

During the life of Jesus, he prepared his disciples for this change in spiritual technology. He taught how they could come into contact with their Light selves but that only after his death could they receive the holy spirit (the power of Yahweh). It was only after he had conquered death that a path to individual Theosis became available and the task of his brother, James the Just was to teach this.

James the Just was the Priestly Messiah, he taught that Jesus had imparted the secret of the Mysteries and that now initiated individuals could become part of the

divine family. This divine twinship, these two Messiahs are found throughout the Old testament and are mentioned in an unusual record in the New. We have the strange record of a supposed Roman celebration where one criminal is released each year, this is certainly strange as there is no other record of this supposed Roman ceremony. The people are asked to choose, do they want Jesus or Barrabas. The code here is in the name Barrabas, Barrabas means “Son of God”, in earlier translations of the New testament we find Barrabas was called Jesus Barrabas, in other words, Jesus, Son of God ! Are there two Jesus’, the answer is yes ! Jesus the King who is crucified (Jesus Christ, King of the Jews) and James the Just, the second Jesus Son of God who is let free !

The new teachings as revealed by Jesus and James has two distinct aspects, the first is that of individual self discovery. This is the path of the Dove known to the Gnostics as the Psychic Path. It is the path outlined by Jesus. After the death of Jesus and outpouring of Sophia at Pentecost, James the Just revealed a second path, the path of the Serpent or the Pneumatic Path. This is the path of Theosis or deification. The concept of Theosis is found in the writings of many Church Fathers and is embodied in the initiations described in the Secret Gospel of Mark (refer works of Morton Smith). The path of the Serpent involved secret training, occult techniques and death and rebirth rites, it was both a way of life and a ritualised process. (As it is today).

After the death of James the Just, things became difficult. St.Paul, though knowledgeable in some aspects of the Mysteries, was not an initiated Essene or Gnostic. Accordingly, his writings are a muddle of Qumran Essene Mysticism and Talmudic traditions. There is certainly documentation to suggest a division between the Jerusalem Church of James the Just (the rightful heir to the Essenes) and the new form of Christianity taught by Paul. Paul certainly knew of the doctrine of Theosis but had little knowledge of its technology and relevance. After James died, Paul wrangled control of much of the Church and created a distorted form of Christianity, while in the end this resulted in the “Secret Way” going underground. The writings of St.Paul were always viewed with some ambivalence by the Gnostic Church. The Secret Way has survived in various Gnostic cults and was rejected as the Church became the political-religious complex we know as Catholicism.

There were two paths of survival for the doctrine of Theosis. As the Gnostic cults came and went the doctrine was passed from one to another and flowered in the Cathars and Knight Templars. From the Knight Templars the doctrine passed to various esoteric orders and was transmitted via Freemasonry and occult traditions. This form of the doctrine of deification sustained the technology and science, but lost most of the ethical and religious teachings associated with it.

On the other hand, the doctrine was also passed from the Gnostic cults to various Monastic orders within the Orthodox Church. Here the doctrine took root and became an accepted teaching within the Orthodox traditions. It is still taught today within most Orthodox communions, however, over the centuries it has lost it context, esotericism and technology and in such an exoteric form exists as little more than a name. We also know that the esoteric form of Theosis was taught to Gurdjieff by various esoteric Christian bodies and made its way into modern Fourth Way Schools. A prime example is in the work of Boris Mouravieff (Praxis Institute) who combines Orthodoxy with Fourth Way traditions. Once again, however, we have a distortion, the moralism and puritanical nature of some of the modern Orthodox-fourth way schools shows how far they have travelled from the original Jerusalem Church wisdom.

Theosis or deification is central to the Gnostic tradition. It represents the natural development of the Covenant process of Ancient Israel. We can see how Yahweh revealed knowledge to man first through Kingship in a theocracy, then through the Prophets and Shamans and finally directly to the human soul through initiation and Transfiguration. The essence of the Transfiguration process is the ability of an individual to enter the path of rebirth and escape the coils of the World of the Archons to return home as a immortal member of the God-family.

Conclusion

The Mystery is central to our understanding of the real message of the Apostolic Gnosis. That is also why we tend to call True Christianity, Gnostic Christianity, as the term Gnosis means Knowledge. However, Gnosis represents more than theory,

it represents the living experience of the knowledge or Mystery. The Mystery is more than ancient theory, it comprises a series of doctrines and practises that actually offer transformation of man into God. Jesus, our Elder Brother outlined a technology, a spiritual process whereby man may be sanctified and purified to such a level that he is transformed into child of the Treasury of Light. This process is that of Transfiguration and encompasses the idea of being Born again and is very different from what you may have been taught about being reborn.

Chapter Nine: The Mysteries of Rebirth

To be Born again

The actual nature of the process of Transfiguration is important to define, so is the way of entering into it. The fundamentalist Christian concept of simply giving your life to Jesus is utterly alien to the real teachings of the Master Jesus. The process of being born again is just that, *a process*. Just like a child takes nine months from conception to birth, so the process of being reborn takes a long period of time, perhaps even many lives. It is an apt description, birth brings us into the fallen words, rebirth takes us out of it ! The moment of conception is that time when you decide to enter onto the Path of Transfiguration. From that conception you begin to grow and transform from a person of the flesh to a being of spirit, from a slave of the Archons to a centre of Light. The choice of reproductive imagery is deliberate, since the Gnostic tradition is anti-reproductive, in some sense to be born again is to be de-born as well as reborn, you have chosen to create a new self within yourself rather than perpetuate the cycle by reproducing an external self (a child). For most of us, This transformation is not completed within our life-span(s), and hence we have to wait until the end of the cosmic cycle when the children of the Lord of Wisdom are finally reborn into the new Kingdom as immortal beings.Accordingly, you cannot actually be born again until that great Day when you are finally and irreversibly transfigured from Dialectic to Static substance. This is confirmed in 1 John 3:9 where we read...

> Whosoever is born of God doth not commit sin, for his seed remaineth in him and he cannot sin, because he is born of God.
>
> **1 John 3:9**

There a number of key concepts in this verse. The seed of a reborn person cannot

sin ! This is an incredible concept, if you are truly reborn you cannot sin. In real terms this means that a fully reborn person is permanently one with God. Now surely this does not apply to modern fundamentalist Christians who are supposedly reborn by a quick prayer at a revival meeting ! No, being reborn is being changed from one substance to another and that takes time !

The Nature of Transfiguration

Transfiguration offers the transformation of Adamic man. It offers liberation from the dialectic cycles of the World of the Archons and transfiguration into a Static Being, a child of the Treasury of Light. Transfiguration is based on the example of Jesus who through his Ascension to become the first Born of the Treasury of light opened the way so we can enter the spiritual Path. This Path is known as the Path(es) of the Dove and Serpent or the Path of Transfiguration. When a person enters the Path, the Pneumatic Spark or Light Self that has been frozen in time awakens and begins to grow once again. Sophia cleanses the Ruach, Nephesh and other constituents of the psychic apparatus and prepares the initiate for communion with the Logos or Mind of God. The process of rebirth is just that, a process. Nobody is immediately born again, the process of rebirth takes much time (even lifetimes) from conception (entering the spiritual Path) to final rebirth into the Kingdom of God.

> Being born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by the word of God, which liveth and abideth for ever.
> 1 Peter 1:23

Transfiguration involves both Grace and Works, Justification and Sanctification. These are loaded terms but important in understanding how the process of rebirth actually operates. The moment you enter the Spiritual path you are seen as reborn, that is, the Pleroma perceives you as a new creature, a new being. The Aeons see you as a child of the Light. In this sense you are justified, that is, through Transfiguration you are seen as reborn. However, you must now live up to this commission and actually achieve this state. Many start the path but do not make it. There is a vast difference between the initial act of justification and the long process of purification or sanctification through which you must travel before you

are actually reborn. By Grace you have entered the spiritual path, by works you make it to the moment of Rebirth. The process of transformation is a difficult and demanding trek however by following the teachings of the Gnosis you will reach the goal. Just like there are many miscarriages in this world, there are many in the spiritual world. Being conceived on the Path of Transfiguration is not enough, the Path itself must be travelled!

> Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.
> 1 Corinthians 5:17

The Two Paths

The first Path is known as the Terrestrial Path or that of the Dove. There are actually two paths within the process of Transfiguration. Before anyone can enter the Path of the Serpent of Wisdom or the Celestial Path they must have passed through the Terrestrial first. The Terrestrial Path is the path of rebirth for most Gnostics, it is a demanding way which transforms the Dialectic into the very substance of the Treasury of Light. In the New Testament it is the Path of the Called. In the secret teachings of Valentinus those who enter the Path of the Dove are known as Psychics, while those who follow the secret Path of the Serpent are known as Pneumatics. (Fig 17)

The Path of the Dove has seven stages as shown in figure 18. These seven stages illustrate the process of the Terrestrial path, after the Gnostic has worked through these stages he can rightly be called a Child of the Treasury of Light. At this point, depending on his destiny, he will reincarnate and teach and assist others or he will enter the Celestial or Secret Path. The destiny of those who remain as Children of the Dove is to be reborn as Immortal beings living on the restored Light world which will be the replacement for Earth. The Earth will be rectified and return to the Static Kingdom and will exist in a dimension of Light populated by those of the Terrestrial Path of Rebirth.

The Two Paths

Terrestrial Path
Way of Light - Guidance and Laws- Resurrection at Omega Day
Immortals on Earth.

Path of the Dove, Terrestrial, Called Ones.

Celestial Path
Mysteries - Mastery of Terrestrial Path - Initiation and Deification.

Path of the Serpent of Wisdom, Celestial, Chosen Ones, Parfait.

Fig 17

Seven Stages of Salvation

1.	Repentance	(First Steps)
2.	Faith.	(Education).
3.	Baptism.	(Initiation).
4.	Anointing.	(Holy Spirit).
5.	Overcoming Dialectic System.	(Communion, Feasts, Gnostic Practise).
6.	Rebirth.	
7.	Resurrection.	

Fig 18

the Mysteries

> .....and to make plain to everyone the administration of this mystery, which for ages past was kept hidden in God, who created all things.
>
> **Ephesians 3:9**

> The Word of God is now God as He had been man, in order to deify mankind together with himself.
>
> **Eusebius,**
>
> **Demonstratio Evangelica IV:14**

The Mysteries are a special teaching which is not covered in most Biblical studies. It is the final secret teaching revealed by Christ (after his ascension) to his brother James and then onto the other Apostles. The teaching was the last stage of the continuing development of the spiritual System given by Jesus. The Mysteries are described in a range of New Testament books as the Mystery (Ephesians 3:3), The Mystery of Christ (Ephesians 3:4), The Great Mystery (Ephesians 5:32), The Administration of the Mystery (Ephesians 3;9) and in many other verses. This teaching was an esoteric Gnosis which was not available until its revealing after the death of Jesus. This teaching was a special wisdom for a certain class of Israelite. The Lord of Wisdom would call certain people from the Path of Terrestrial Salvation to enter a new way, that of Celestial Deification. And that is the nexus of this new specialised teaching, that some of the initiates would be called to become Part of the God Family, in other worlds, Gods themselves ! This special Path is known as the Celestial Path, the Path of the Serpent of Wisdom or The Path of the Chosen Ones. Initiates on this Path were known in some traditions as Parfait or Perfected Ones. This Secret teaching has been known to theOrthodox Churches for some time but has been taught in radically divergent fashion.

> Gods essence is inaccessible. His uncreated and eternal energies (Glory,Light,Love) permeate the universe and make possible a personal union with man. In its worship the Church offers thanksgiving that God has opened the way for man to come to him and has made union with him possible. This is the Orthodox Churches' teaching of the

> deification (theosis) of man, a doctrine based on the Incarnation, which revealed a new perfect humanity.....This union is the goal of prayer and participation in the Sacraments, it involves the co-operation of two wills, divine and human. In this union with God human beings become " partakers of the divine nature " (II Peter 1:4) without ceasing to be creatures. Other New Testament writers expressed this union in terms of being or dwelling in Christ. The fathers of the Church as well as modern theologians recognised that deification as the goal of Christian life lies at the base of every important theological controversy in the history of the Orthodox Churches.
>
> Abingdon Dictionary of Living Religions,
>
> Page 553.

In simple terms the Lord of Wisdom will call certain Gnostics on the Path of Transfiguration onto a special road. These will be few in number and the demands on them will be ever so great. Their first task will be the mastery of the Terrestrial Path, however, then rather than reincarnating simply to teach and assist, they will achieve perfection while doing the special tasks required by The Lord of Wisdom. Some of these Perfect Ones will achieve some measure of perfection in the flesh and become emissaries of the divine in their lifetimes.

The Mysteries are very different from the more traditional Gnostic paths for they include no moral or ethical restrictions, for as a man becomes part of God, he will act as the voice of God directs. These Perfected Ones or Parfait as the Cathars called them, are few and far between. As it is all too easy for a man to claim immortality and perfection, it is another thing to actually achieve it. In many cases the Ecclesia themselves " administered the Mysteries ", that is, they recognised or denied the state of Perfection to avoid charlatans and false prophets claiming the title without right.

> I said, `You are "gods"; you are all sons of the Most High.'
>
> Psalms 82:6

Mystery of the Melchisedek Priesthood

> Called of God an high priest after the order of Melchizedek.
> **Hebrews 5:10**

One of the ways we can see the differences between the two paths of Salvation is found in an understanding of the Priesthood of Melchizedek. This priesthood is a special, immortal Royal line which was founded by the Lord of Wisdom in the period before creation. It is a unique Priesthood and one available to all those of Israel. It comprises, however, various levels or hierarchies within it.

The four levels of the Melchizedek Priesthood are:

① First Born of Creation.
② 144,000 Elders.
③ Celestial Class.
④ Terrestrial Class.

The First born of Creation is Michael who became Jesus himself. He is the Highest Priest of all and since 1844 (The Heraldic Age) is ministering in the heavenly Tabernacle preparing for the Omega Day (End Time).

The *144,000 Elders* are of a special class. They are the Overmen or Succeeders from the last cycle. They are a group who passed right through the seven phases of the previous Adamic evolutionary cycle. When they saw the destruction being reeked throughout our universe by the fall of Lucifer, they elected not to continue on with their own development but to return and incarnate on earth to assist the lost Adamic peoples. They are virginal in the sense that while they are incarnated in human bodies they were not of this cycle, they are the true firstfruits from beyond earth. Throughout history they have reincarnated as teachers, leaders, warriors and priests, they were the builders of the Great Pyramid in Egypt under Enoch and will lead the Lost tribes of Israel in the End times.

> And they sung as it were a new song before the throne, and before the four beasts, and the elders: and no man could learn that song but the hundred and forty and four thousand, which were redeemed from the earth. These are they which were not defiled with women; for they are virgins. These are they which follow the Lamb whithersoever he goeth. These were redeemed from among men, being the firstfruits unto God and to the Lamb.
>
> **Revelation 13:3-4**

The *Celestial Class* are those who have reached perfection through the Path of Transfiguration and achieved a state of Godhood. They continue to incarnate on earth working with the Will (Logos) of the Lord of Wisdom. In the end time the 144,000 in conjunction with the Celestial Class will fulfil the role of the "Left Hand of God" cleansing the planet in preparation for his return. They will be translated to become Immortal Elohim within the God-Family.

The *Terrestrial Class* are those who achieve perfection at the resurrection. They apply and follow the Gnostic principles in many lives as they transform from earthly to heavenly substance. They follow the Will of the Lord of Wisdom and are reborn as his children on the restored kingdom.

> Him that overcometh will I make a pillar in the temple of my God, and he shall go no more out: and I will write upon him the name of my God, and the name of the city of my God, which is new Jerusalem, which cometh down out of heaven from my God: and I will write upon him my new name.
>
> **Revelation 3:12**

> And I saw a new heaven and a new earth: for the first heaven and the first earth were passed away; and there was no more sea.
>
> And I John saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a great voice out of heaven saying, Behold, the tabernacle of

> God is with men, and he will dwell with them, and they shall be his people, and God himself shall be with them, and be their God.
>
> And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away.
>
> **Revelation 21:1-4**

The Seven Stages of Salvation

The Paths of Salvation are divided into seven distinct steps. Each of which we shall examine in some detail...

① First Steps.
② Faith and Education.
③ Baptism. (Initiation).
④ Anointing. (Holy Spirit).
⑤ Overcoming The Dialectic System.
(Communion and Feasts).
⑥ Rebirth
⑦ Resurrection.

First Steps: Repentance

The word repentance rings in the ears of most of us who had the misfortune of being brought up in Christian traditions. The problem is that most Christians have no knowledge of what the word really means ! The image of repentance in keeping with the traditions of most of western Christianity, is simply to say you're sorry, you can do whatever you want as long as you say sorry to God and get forgiven. However, this is not what the Gnostic tradition or for that matter the Bible really says. Yes, there is forgiveness but Grace works in conjunction with Works. Salvation is a process through which the Lord of Wisdom works in conjunction with you ! It is not a one way street !. The actual term repentance means to turn about, to reverse, to change. It means a point where an individual decides his life

is going the wrong way and turns it about and heads in another direction. The term repentance in the Gnostic sense means to awaken to the fact that one's life; being, mind and emotions are chained within the World of the Archons and whatever ones does, one cannot escape. Hence, only through Transfiguration can liberation be achieved. The first stage of Transfiguration is to turn away, to repent, to give-up the Path of the world (The Dialectic field) and begin the trek to Redemption. This change of direction starts with the simple acknowledgment of the Covenant and by a conscious effort to start living the life of a true Gnostic.

First Steps:Detachment and Controlled Awareness

When Buddha said all life was suffering he wasn't joking ! The perceptiveness of Gautama Buddha's understanding of how the Dialectic system is perpetuated cannot be underestimated. As Buddha expressed in his four Noble truthes, all life is suffering because we become attached to what happens to us and attachment leads to reaction and reaction to attachment. Buddha's solution is interpreted by modern scholars of the Buddhist traditions (Himayana and Mahayana) to be total detachment. There, however, is a problem. If we understand that the Dialectic system is sustained by action and reaction then total detachment and total attachment both will have ramifications and by logic, reactions. If we see 0 or no linkage to the Dialectic system as the goal then Detachment would be negative (-1) and attachment would be positive (+1). Both involve actions and reactions. Many Gnostic schools apply western versions of Buddha's logic the problem however is that when we attempt to totally detach from the world, the reaction is normally so strong, we end up in total attachment ! One of the first steps in the Path is that of "Controlled Awareness". Controlled Awareness is becoming totally aware of what is happening within us and around us. It involves realising that the process of rebirth involves the "death" of the old terrestrial mind and emotions, and the rebuilding of a new Self. Transfiguration awakens the real self, a Self we have never experienced and one which is truly ‘us’ and yet so alien at first. Accordingly the new Gnostic on the Path must become aware of the changes that are occurring within him and observe and understand the reactions and actions that occur. The "controlled" facet of awareness is in the fact that the Gnostic must slowly learn to make decisions about what occurs in his mind and emotions. A pause must be created before an

action is taken; an emotion is expressed; a behaviour is enacted and a decision made regarding its value in light of the Spiritual Path. In some situations attachment will be the answer, in others detachment, the key is awareness and the focus is on controlled decision making. Full detachment and full attachment are opposites and hence lead further into the Dialectic rather than away from it.

First Steps:Study, Conviction and Emotion

The structure of the psyche must also be taken into consideration. How many of us focus on careers, money, music, fame and so on. The true Gnostic must be focused on the Spiritual Path and nothing else. In the Gospels the allegory of giving up all is used, obviously you are not expected to give away everything but your sole goal must be to reach the Treasury of Light.

> Now when Jesus heard these things, he said unto him, Yet lackest thou one thing: sell all that thou hast, and distribute unto the poor, and thou shalt have treasure in heaven: and come, follow me.
> **Luke 18:22**

Developing this thought we need to consider the role of the Mind (Ruach) and the Emotions (Nephesh) in our lives. For most of us, prior to entering the Path, our Lords are either the Mind or the emotions. Yet on the spiritual path this cannot be so, the mind is a good scribe but a bad master, the emotions and the body are excellent followers but rotten leaders. The new Self which is awakening must take control of the body ("Put your House in Order") and a restored Mind and Emotions will take their rightful place beneath it. In the life of the Gnostic there should be a simple set of principles...

① Study should come first, study the Scriptures, study the Gnostic texts and the Restored Gnostic keys.

② Secular thinking and belief come second ! Logic and belief must be based in a firm foundation, the foundation of Self and the Lord of Wisdom.

③ Thirdly and definitely only third comes the body and the emotions. Sure, look

after the body and enjoy the world, but do so with care ! Just because you wake up one morning feeling bad does not mean you have fallen off the spiritual path. But remember, the world is a trap, a dialectic prison and hence indulgence (+1) or attachment and mortification (-1) or detachment are both actions and reactions and hence part of the prison we are caught in.

Faith and Education

One of the most important steps on the Path is that of education or more correctly, re-education. When the Gnostic begins to really study the Bible with the Keys of the Mysteries a whole new understanding arises and this new understanding (Gnosis) will change forever the way he looks at the world. Study is hence a major part of the Path of Transfiguration and it leads to a whole new way of examining the world. This viewpoint is sometimes called faith but is better described as Conviction. It is a worldview that grows out of the experience of the Gnosis. An experiential wisdom that the world is really a fallen place, and that we are being called home to another world, another dimension; another order of being. The process of re-education is constant as it involves a battle, everyday we are programmed with garbage from the Dialectic system, Television, radio, newspapers, novels, books, friends, family members...all offer us the wisdom of the world. Accordingly, everything we are fed enters into our minds and conflicts with the new developing Self.

But this is just the beginning ! Within everyone of us are false selves, little identities created out of desires and unconscious materials (internal Archons), these false selves like Gods demand attention and control. These little selves are nodes of unconscious desires and experiences and hence are "restricted" in focus and knowledge, they are therefore extremely dangerous and destructive. Little Gods of Self hate, Lust, Narcissism, addictions etc. all control and cloud the mind and Nephesh. They refuse to allow us to live in the present replaying past events and creating false associations between present events and the past. They control the mind to such an extent that the Voice of God (the Logos) cannot be heard and we become lost within our internal fallen worlds. At the same time, the old Ruach (Mind) and Nephesh (emotions) are also false Gods, for their place is in submission to the awakened Self (True Self) not in domination of it. The structure of the True Man is like a chariot, the body is the Chariot itself, riding in it is the True Self, the

mind is the reins and the Horses are the emotions. Only when these constituents are in their rightful place does the chariot speed in the right direction. The horses are good at their given task but very bad drivers ! So all things must be in their place and this is the task of Transfiguration. The process of re-education involves a long and arduous battle in which the old " Gods " die and a new God is reborn. The Mind and Emotions are destroyed in the Dark Nights of initiation (see section below on the Dark Night of the Soul for details) and a new mind/emotion complex is formed under the directions of the True Self (Yechidah). Like Osiris we must rise from the death of our old selves into the new.

> Lord, I die daily.
>
> 1 Corinthians 15:30

> Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.
>
> 2 Cor 5:17

Baptism, Initiation and The Anointing

> He went into all the country around the Jordan, preaching a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins.
>
> Luke 3:3

Baptism or immersion into water represents the first Initiation on the spiritual Path. It is a ritual recognition of the process of rebirth that has begun. The rite itself is not the same as the rite of Christening, there is no Biblical evidence for the initiation of minors. The rite of baptism is by full immersion into water and represents the descent of the Old man into death (the water) and rebirth as a new creation. This can be readily seen from Luke 3:3 where Baptism is specifically referred to as the Baptism of Repentance. Repentance as discussed earlier involves a radical change of life direction and hence can only be recognised in someone of mature age. Baptism is the first of the Seven Sacraments used by the Gnostic Church. The rite is only available to those who have entered the Path of Transfiguration. Baptism is one of three Initiations offered by the Gnostic Ecclesia: Baptism by Water, Anointing

with the Holy Spirit and Celestial Confirmation (Consolomentum). As can be seen from the verse below there are two distinct forms of Baptism, both of which are available to those on the Terrestrial Path. There is the Baptism of repentance (known scripturally as the Baptism of Water or John's Baptism), and there is the Baptism or Anointing with the Holy Spirit or Fire. (The Baptism of the Holy Spirit). The Third Initiation, that of the Celestial Class is a unique rite (not a Baptism) and one we will not elaborate on in this study.

> So Paul asked, "Then what baptism did you receive?" "John's baptism," they replied. Paul said, "John's baptism was a baptism of repentance. He told the people to believe in the one coming after him, that is, in Jesus." On hearing this, they were baptised into the name of the Lord Jesus.
> Acts 19:3-5

The Anointing of the Holy Spirit is the Baptism with Fire. It is not given with the Baptism of repentance but is offered later on the spiritual Path. As the Baptism of repentance is recognition of starting the spiritual Path, the Baptism of Fire is recognition of a certain degree of achievement and is stimulus for further growth. The Baptism of water symbolises the start of the work of Sophia in cleansing the life of the student, it also initiates the growth of the Light Spark in the Gnostic. The Baptism of fire recognises the growing Spark of Light and accelerates the destruction of the "old man" within the Gnostic being. As the Spark of Light grows it attempts to commune with the Mind of God (Logos) to which the Gnostic now has access, however, sin (Dialectic facets) block the way. As the initiate grows Sophia purifies and destroys the blockages between the Self and the Logos. This process is recognised and accelerated by the Initiation of Fire. The Spirit baptism also recognises the new Mind and emotion through which the New Man is being formed. Accordingly, as Sophia acts new gifts and powers are activated. It should be noted that since this Baptism initiates new aspects of the Transfiguration process, it should be only offered to mature Gnostics. An initiate just on the path, so to speak, by taking this Baptism can bring on internal experiences beyond his maturity, it is no use destroying the mind and emotion until you are ready to relinquish control of them to the New You !

There are different kinds of gifts, but the same Spirit.
There are different kinds of service, but the same Lord.
There are different kinds of working, but the same God works all of them in all men.
Now to each one the manifestation of the Spirit is given for the common good.
To one there is given through the Spirit the message of wisdom, to another the message of knowledge by means of the same Spirit, to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by that one Spirit, to another miraculous powers, to another prophecy, to another distinguishing between spirits, to another speaking in different kinds of tongues, and to still another the interpretation of tongues.
All these are the work of one and the same Spirit, and he gives them to each one, just as he determines.
1 Corinthians 12:4-11

When they arrived, they prayed for them that they might receive the Holy Spirit, because the Holy Spirit had not yet come upon any of them; they had simply been baptised into the name of the Lord Jesus.
Then Peter and John placed their hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit.
Acts 8:15-17.

Many may argue against separate Baptisms of water and fire and yet clearly in the Book of Acts we have a discussion of the difference between the Baptism in the name of Jesus and the baptism of the Holy Spirit. This also leads us to an understanding of the esoteric meaning of the name Jesus and the Christ. Jesus in symbolism is the human principle. In Gnostic literature the name Jesus was symbolic of the spiritually disciplined life, hence, Baptism in the name of Jesus is the first Baptism, that of water, that of Discipline, that of Repentance. The Second baptism (or anointing) is that of Fire, it is the Christ Baptism. At this baptism Sophia breaks down the barriers between the new awakened Self (Pneumatic Spark) and the Logos, and the Gnostic enters into communion with the Mind of God. In other words, the Lord of Wisdom is present in his soul, he is Christed.

Now I realise many traditional Christians (and others) will argue that the Holy Spirit cannot do any harm, it is the spirit of Love and hence these baptisms can be given together. But this is just not so, if we continue to read the account in Acts Eight, when Simon try's to purchase the power of the Holy Spirit, he is cursed with death, he becomes so terrified he asks the disciples to pray and protect him from its power ! In Acts 5 we read of Ananias who in trying to deceive the Holy Spirit was killed by the power of God. In addition to these comments we may also note that the only sin that cannot be forgiven is the " Sin against the Holy Spirit " (Mark 3:29). Accordingly, the Baptism of the Holy Spirit or Fire should not be taken lightly. An interesting note on Baptism is found in the Strong's Exhaustive concordance where it is considering the difference between two Greek works used for Baptism. Baptizo and Bapto. The note is from the Bible Study magazine (James Montgomery Brice, May 1989).

The term used specifically in the New Testament for Baptism is Baptizo...

> 907 baptizo {bap-tid'-zo} Not to be confused with 911, bapto. The clearest example that shows the meaning of baptizo is a text from the Greek poet and physician Nicander, who lived about 200 B.C. It is a recipe for making pickles and is helpful because it uses both words. Nicander says that in order to make a pickle, the vegetable should first be 'dipped' (bapto) into boiling water and then 'baptised' (baptizo) in the vinegar solution. Both verbs concern the immersing of vegetables in a solution. But the first is temporary. The second, the act of baptising the vegetable, produces a permanent change.
>
> When used in the New Testament, this word more often refers to our union and identification with Christ than to our water baptism. e.g. Mark 16:16. 'He that believes and is baptised shall be saved'. Christ is saying that mere intellectual assent is not enough. There must be a union with him, a real change, like the vegetable to the pickle!

Living the Life of a Gnostic: Overcoming The Dialectic System

> In fact, everyone who wants to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will be persecuted,
>
> 2 Timothy 3:12

Of great significance on the Path of Transfiguration is actually ‘living the Life’. The Dialectic system is an enemy against which we fight, as we experience more and more of the power of the Light Kingdoms then we will battle more and more with the fallen minions. In fact anyone who is on the spiritual path will feel the power of the Archons and have to battle against them. As part of the Path, then, the Lord of Wisdom offers many guide-lines, these include...

① Following the Light Within
② Separation from the World.
③ Fellowship.
④ The Festivals. (Alignment with the Treasury Currents).
⑤ Reproduction and Ethics.

Each of these offer assistance along the Path, following the Light within includes the guidance we receive from the Gnostic tradition. For example, in how we should deal with ourselves and those around us. Separation from the world is of paramount importance, in the Aryan traditions of Moses we are told not to even mix with those of other races and traditions. While this is difficult to apply today it is abundantly clear that we are to keep to our own path, avoid social contact with those not of the Gnosis, and keep ourselves focused on our own traditions.

The term fellowship means association, community, communion, joint participation, intercourse, the share which one has in anything, participation, the right hand as a sign and pledge of fellowship (Strong's Exhaustive Concordance). It is not simply a social gathering or friendships, but a communion of those of similar heritage and of similar belief. Fellowship certainly assists many on the Spiritual path who find the quest difficult and isolated, however, it is only of value insomuch that the fellowship itself conforms to the dictates of the Gnostic tradition. Fellowship with the fallen brings destruction.

The Festivals

The Festivals of Light offer a method of aligning oneself with the Treasury of Light. The festivals are based on a transcendent interpretation of natural imagery and are hence aligned with the purity of Pre-Fall man. They celebrate the ebb and flow of the spiritual worlds and by aligning with them slowly transform our essence from Dialectic to Static. While an extensive study will be made of the festivals in both theory and practice in a later chapter, it is useful to appreciate their juxtaposition with festivals of the World. The Feasts of Light celebrate the liberation of man from matter while traditional earth festivals used in most Pagan traditions focus on the worship of the earth itself. Earth systems focus on the death and resurrection of the earth and by default make the celebrator subservient to the earth, Gnostic festivals focus on the death of the Dialectic and resurrection of the Static and by default make the celebrator triumphant over earth and a partaker of the powers of Light.

Reproduction and Ethics.

To appreciate the nature of reproduction we must again take into consideration the Gnostic view of the physical world itself. While many modern religious organisations market the view that matter is " God's creation " if we dig deeper and examine the earliest Gnostic traditions we find a very different story. In the Ariosophic traditions of the Israelites, Vedic Philosophy and the Zoroastrian we find that the creation of matter occurred due to a error, a cosmic error. The physical universe is in a state of degeneration, a mixture of light and darkness, good and evil and has come about due to an instability caused in the First Estate or spiritual worlds. Depending on the tradition the nature of this error varies. In some legends it comes from the rebellion of a Fallen Angel, in others, it is the act of a vengeful Extra-Terrestrial, in still others, it is the development of the universe itself which casts a distorted reflection of itself, which then takes on a life of its own. In any event, the early Gnostic view was that matter was not a normal part of the evolutionary stream, it developed as a result of a fall and hence nature is inherently unstable and has a tendency towards evil. Matter in the Vedic School is understood as Maya or illusion. Depending on your perspective and relationship to

matter it can either be a trap or a means of liberation. When we consider the role of reproduction, this dualism, this paradoxical potential for both good and evil becomes central to our understanding.

Reproduction as a Necessary Evil

Reproduction in some sense partakes of the same paradox as matter itself. In the mythology of genesis reproduction only occurs after Adam and Eve's fall and expulsion from the garden. In the Gnostic legends it is sex which traps the lightsparks into the delights of Eden. Whether we use this mythology or another, the Gnostic concept is that reproduction is a fallen or degenerative occurrence.

Within the earlier Gnostic communities there was always ambivalence towards the reproductive act. While certainly it was seen that there was a need to create bodies into which souls could incarnate, at the same time by creating bodies we are assisting the perpetuation of a fallen system. Much of the early Gnostic literature is graphic in its contempt for reproduction, however, we must be careful not to assume that this contempt was misogynist or anti-heterosexual.

The primary aim of the Gnostic is to be liberated from the fallen kingdoms (the world of the Archons) and return to the Treasury of Light. Hence, anything which continues the scheme of things is seen as destructive. At the same time, and here is the paradox, the Gnostic realises that bodies must be available for the process of liberation to occur (at least in the early phases of man's evolution). This is the only way that the particles of light or souls can experience matter, become satyred with it, and then head towards liberation. Therefore Gnostic literature assumes a certain paradoxical nature, reproduction is scorned, but tolerated in confined limits. In some sense this was the original role of marriage, betrothal and laws regarding female cleanliness etc. Reproduction was seen as a contamination that could lock the Particles of light into the earth cycle, accordingly, the best solution was not to reproduce at all.

However, at the very least, marriage rules and cleanliness regulations could contain the contamination. This may seem harsh to some, but it is certainly clear that in the

earliest Gnostic Churches today's emphasis on family values would seem repulsive if not downright Satanic.

The Two Paths:The Serpent and the Dove

The early Gnostic vision was of a hierarchy or evolutionary ladder on which the soul would climb or evolve. This hierarchy covered various cultures, races and traditions and as the soul progressed, reproduction would also be measured according to the degree of liberation.

In the terms of Christian Gnosticism these degrees were known as the Paths of the Serpent and the Dove. According to the Mystery teachings there are various degree's within the spiritual path. While a soul may travel through many bodies, races and cultures when he/she finally enters the spiritual path a great change takes place. This change is known as Transfiguration. Within the Transfigurative process are two distinct degrees of development or Paths.

The first Path is known as the Terrestrial Path or that of the Dove, the second that of the Serpent of Wisdom. Before anyone can enter the Celestial Path they must have first completed the Terrestrial quest in a previous incarnation.

The Terrestrial Path is the path of the Dove. It is a demanding way which transforms the dialectic (fallen substance) into the very essence of the Treasury of Light. In the New Testament it is the Path of the Called. In the secret teachings of Valentinus those who enter the Path of the Dove are known as Psychics, while those who follow the secret Path of the Serpent are known as Pneumatics.

While these paths are primarily of a spiritual nature, we can also understand them in relation to reproduction. For example, within the Path of the Dove, the first path, reproduction is acceptable, just. Since reproduction is a product of the fall this first path, by its very nature, entails rules and regulations to control the contaminating effect of the reproductive energy field.

This path also has two distinct phases, the lower phase of the Path of the Dove is the path of family. The lower phase is controlled by a range of rules and regulations which allow for the creation of suitable bodies for the incarnation of souls (Eugenics) but controls the contaminating effects of the reproductive vibration. The higher phase is non-reproductive but can also apply to those who no longer have a young family and decide not to reproduce again. It is considered the higher stage of the Path of the Dove.

The Genital Trap

When we first discuss this subject we find a lot of students have a problem with such a seeming discrimination against reproduction. However, what must be understood is that reproduction is a trap. It aligns the Particles of light or Soul with the vibrations of the physical plane and hence the world of the Archons. While certainly it is inevitable that some children need to be born so souls can incarnate, at the same time, by giving birth we perpetuate the rule of the Demiurge and the fallen system. There can be no doubt that the primary sin mentioned in Genesis was reproduction. Reproduction is central to our issue. Homosexuals or heterosexuals may enter either path, the only provision is that on the Path of the Serpent no reproduction can be allowed.

While certainly we can make the generalisation that more homosexuals enter the Path of the Serpent and more heterosexuals the Path of the Dove, this is not a deliberate practise. It does seem however that the very nature of heterosexuality encourages reproduction and hence it is somewhat more difficult for a heterosexual couple to take an oath not to reproduce. But this is not a matter of discrimination or policy within the Gnostic Ecclesia, it is simply an observation.

The issue is not one of sexuality but of reproduction.

Homosexuality and the Gnostic path

This homosexual aspects of the Gnosis will come as a bit of a shock for those used to traditional views of religion. However, if we search a bit deeper into the sources of our tradition some amazing facts arise. We find the Enkidu and Gilgamesh in the

Epic of Gilgamesh (Sumerian) were homosexual lovers, there was an Old testament homosexual priesthood called the Qadesh which later scholars edited out of the Bible, Joseph's coat of many colours was a symbol of his membership in a transvestite priesthood and David and Jonathan were clearly lovers. In the new testament many such traditions also appear, the Gnostic Scriptures suggest homosexual rites among the male disciples and John was the disciple Jesus "especially loved ".

The reason why modern Talmudic Judaism and Christianity is so anti-homosexual is that they are not the real teachings of the Bible nor Jesus. Judaism developed out of Babylonian Talmudic traditions and has no real link with the White Israelite Mysteries of the Old testament. Modern Christianity derived from Emperor Constantine and his Jewish wife rather than from Jesus and the Essenes. The Bible has been edited by these apostate forces so that it seems to teach the opposite to what it really means. The hidden truth of the Gnostic and Biblical message is that reproduction is fallen and those who reproduce can only partake of the lower Mysteries (those of the Dove).

This is why the Essenes separated married initiates off from the rest and why celibacy (originally a code for homosexuality and non-reproductive heterosexuality) was part of the Church structure. Again we must emphasise the issue here is not sexuality but reproduction. The ancient Gnostics would have been disgusted to find that family values were being taught in Christian Churches, they would have thought that the devil himself had taken control for such evil to be regarded as good, maybe they are right...

The imagery of dualism

This also can assist us to understand the imagery of the early Church. When we see the icon of pregnancy attacked, when we read such virulent attacks against birth we can appreciate that this isn't misogyny or an attack on women as individuals but a rejection of reproduction.

Homosexuality (male and female) and non-reproductive heterosexuality was the

norm in the secret brotherhoods and Gnostic communities, and only when we appreciate this fact can we understand what the imagery of these groups meant. Women or men were only dangerous insomuch as they desired reproduction. Maternal and paternal instincts were the enemy, not women or men themselves. The imagery used, while admittedly explosive, reflected the ongoing battles against the world and the flesh. It was (and is) a war against the World of the Archons and must be seen in that context. It was never a war against men or women but against reproduction. The Secret of Gnostic sexuality and the real nature of the Gnostic message means that it will only ever reach a limited few. This, in reality, is a good thing. Jesus himself said "many are called, few are chosen". The modern Churches in promoting family values are damning mankind to further ages of reproduction, competition and ultimately, self destruction. Since matter is by its very nature unstable, then we must work against it, not for it. Accordingly, the very "unnatural" nature of homosexuality and non-reproductive heterosexuality is what makes them so highly prized.

Life on the Path

Life on the Path of the Elohim is difficult, it is a battle between the things of the world and the Treasury of Light. In the Gnostic traditions there are many descriptions of this battle and what it entails. Within the modern esoteric traditions this battle is posited in terms of a force called the " Dweller on the Threshold ". The dweller guards the crossroad between the World of the Archons and the Treasury of light and as the Gnostic approaches this doorway attacks him without mercy, only those truly on the path survive. Some Gnostic systems image this process as a cosmic trek through the planets where at each planet the soul needs special passwords and gestures to gain " right of passage ". For others this battle is seen in terms of an internal quest. For St.John of the cross this process was part of the ascent of Mount Carmel where the Soul would meet its maker. Along the way the soul experiences torments and immense pain as it is purified and prepared for the divine marriage with God.

> Hence the Dark night with its aridities and voids is the means to the knowledge of God and self, although the knowledge given in this night is not as plenteous and abundant as that of the other night of spirit, for

> the knowledge of this might is as it were, be the foundation of the other.
>
> (The soul experiencing the Dark Night) resembles one who is imprisoned in a dark dungeon, bound hands and feet and able neither to move, nor see, nor feel any favour from heaven or earth.
>
> Dark Night of the Soul,
>
> St.John of the Cross
>
> (N1:12,6 N2:7,3)

In whatever form the dark Night is experienced it is terrifying. It occurs in the spiritual growth of all who follow the Path. After the initial excitement of entering the Path and starting the spiritual quest..doubts arise; fears;dreams;terrors;a feeling of abandonment, an inability to study, meditate or concentrate. It is during this period that the " old "
mind and emotions are destroyed, so feelings of death and rebirth are not uncommon. It is a truly shattering occurrence. However, it will be experienced many times along the spiritual path as the lower vehicles are transformed and the New Self grows. An excellent description of this process is found in the literature of Alchemy. For the Alchemists the substance that was being transformed into Gold was themselves and the procedures reflected the spiritual Path. The formula of IAO was used as a code to pass on the teachings to their students. (See Fig 19)

The life of the Gnostic involves the total transformation of the individual from one substance (Dialectic) to another (Static) and accordingly involves the greatest revolution in consciousness possible. This transformation cannot be readily expressed in words but needs to be experienced. An interesting description of the transformation is given by Nietszche when he discusses the process of "overcoming man" and becoming the Overman and compares the gap between Man (Dialectic Man) and the Overman (Static Man) in the following terms....

> I teach you the Overman.
>
> Man is something that shall be overcome.

The Formula of IAO

I. Isis.

The start of the Process.

The student enters the spiritual Path. He feels great, he has started a new life.
(The image of Isis reflects the feeling of security, like the child in the Arms of Isis).

A. Apophis.

The doubts begins, he enters the dark night of the Soul. In the terms of Alchemy the substance putrefies, it goes black and decays. It enters the stage of death. (Nigredo).

The Second Stage of Apophis is the acceleration of the Dark Night, Fears are faced, the soul is purified. This Stage in Alchemy is the changing of the Black substance into White Ash. (Albeco).

The change from The first substance to Black and then to white Ash is the process of purification by Fire. In terms of the Gnostic Path, this is an apt symbol, the Fire of the Spirit. (Apophis is the evil or destructive figure of the ancient Egyptian Pantheon).

0. Osiris.

This final stage is the transformation of the White Powder to the Red Tincture or Jewel (Rubedo).The Gnostic is reborn. He has gone through death and rebirth. He does not, however, return to the Security of the breast of Isis, but now is reborn as a King, a Lord, (Osiris) a member of the Royal Priesthood of the Pleroma.

Fig 19

What have you done to overcome him ?

All beings so far have created something beyond themselves; and do you want to be the ebb of this great flow and even go back to the beasts rather than overcome man ?

What is the ape to man ? A laughing stock or painful embarrassment.

And man shall be just that for the Overman; A laughing stock or a painful embarrassment.

You have made your way from worm to man; and much in you is still worm.

Once you were apes, and even now, too, man is more ape than any ape.

Whoever is the wisest among you is also a mere conflict and cross between plant and ghost. But do I bid you to become ghosts or plants ?

Behold I teach you the Overman.

Thus Spake Zarathustra,

Fredrich Nietzsche.

Chapter Ten: The Secret Way

> And going out of the tomb they came into the house of the youth, for he was rich. And after six days Jesus told him what to do, and in the evening the youth comes to him, wearing a linen cloth over his naked body. And he remained with him that night, for Jesus taught him the Kingdom of God.
>
> **Secret Gospel of Mark,**
>
> **The Secret Gospel,**
>
> **Morton Smith. Aquarian, 1985.**

This verse provides an excellent introduction to the Path of Gnosis. In the Secret Gospel of Mark we have a record of a small segment of the initiated tradition which survived beneath the gloss of early Christianity. As can readily be seen from the above quote, the inner training involved days of tuition and education as well as a nocturnal initiation, where the teachings of the Kingdom were finally revealed. This certainly is not the Born Again experience of a Southern Baptist ! The Path of the Gnosis or Celestial Salvation is very different from what most people expect. It builds on the foundations of the terrestrial path but goes far beyond them. It is a path for a Chosen few in juxtaposition to that of the Path of the Called few. The Path to Salvation in general terms is only for a small number, therefore the Celestial Path is for an even more minute elect. It is a special elite Path for those chosen by the Lord of Wisdom.

> Make every effort to enter through the narrow door, because many, I tell you, will try to enter and will not be able to.
>
> **Luke 13:24**

In the early Gnostic Church the State of Perfection was well recognised. To avoid charlatans claiming the state, the church itself verified the achievement. This was known as the Administration of the Mysteries (Ephesians 3:9). This recognition was by a third form of Baptism, a secret rite. This was known as the Consolamentum by the Cathari and could only be offered once in a lifetime. It is rumoured that if someone took this baptism and was not prepared for it, it would destroy them or send them mad.

> The Order of the Hierarchs has the task of Consecration and of Perfection, that the illuminative Order of priests bring light and that the task of the deacons is to purify and to discern the imperfect.
>
> **Dionysuis, The Complete Works,**
>
> **Paulist Press, 1987.**

This special class was known in many other Gnostic traditions. In some groups they were known as the Living Saints or Perfected Ones. The Cathars knew them as the Parfait. This Celestial class, however, did not live like other Christians. Because they had achieved a new state of being they went far beyond the normal restrictions and confines of contemporary morality. As illustrated in the wineskins tale of the New Testament, the New Wine of the Gnosis cannot be poured into old wineskins (Dialectic Man), according a totally New Man (Light Being, Parfait) must be formed before receiving the secret teachings. The New Wine or Esoteric teachings of Jesus were reserved for the Celestial class.

> And no one pours new wine into old wineskins.
>
> If he does, the new wine will burst the skins, the wine will run out and the wineskins will be ruined.
>
> No, new wine must be poured into new wineskins.
>
> **Luke 5:37,38**

This system of graduated knowledge, different teachings for different levels of Salvation is also clearly intimated in the work of Jesus himself. Jesus taught in a carefully structured hierarchy composed of The Twelve Disciples, The Seventy and the Multitudes. It can be readily seen that this structure of teaching is mirrored

in the Multiple Paths to Salvation. The Celestial path, the Terrestrial Path and the Multitudes who may follow the ethical codes but do not enter the Path. It is not simple to explain the nature of the Celestial Path nor the calling to it. However, it is imperative for the Gnostic to know the voice when it comes, for the Celestial path is a special calling bringing unique opportunities as well as many dangers.

Celestial Transfiguration

> Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that believeth in me, the works that I do shall he do also; and greater works than these shall he do; because I go unto my Father.
>
> John 14:12

The calling to the Celestial Path is a special one. It echoes across lifetimes bringing the Parfait to higher and higher levels of development, until, at an appointed time perfection is achieved. This state of Perfection is a unique state of being. It is one where the Gnostic is in tune with the Mind of God (Logos) and his actions embody the Holy Spirit (Sophia). This state of "Walking in the Light" represents a special achievement of spiritual regeneration. It is the full manifestation of the Covenant of the Mysteries and is represented by a very small group of humanity.

> Now it is fitting that the soul regenerate herself and become again as she formerly was. The Soul then moves of her own accord. And she received the divine nature from the Father for her rejuvenation, so that she might be restored to the place where originally she had been.
>
> This is the way of the ascent to the Father.
>
> The Exegesis of the Soul.
>
> Nag Hammadi Library II 134:6-15.

The process of achieving Celestial Transfiguration involves a range of complex spiritual transformations. It begins with the traditional Terrestrial Path and after a period known as The Dark Night of the Soul, a special calling is experienced. This calling is unique to each one called, and is a harrowing experience, which shakes the soul to its very core. The Gnostic is then lead through secret and inner

interpretations of Scripture and practise (by a teacher or Hierarch) and then into an experience of full regeneration. Usually this process is achieved over many lifetimes and in keeping with the coming End of Time many Parfait are now awakening into the Celestial State.

The amazing thing about this state is that it goes further than simply returning the "soul " to Perfection (Terrestrial Salvation) but actually transfigures the Self to become a member of the God family while in life ! This state of Perfection (Teleios) is inherent within the concept of spiritual rebirth and the nature of the New Man in Christ. As a Gnostic is reborn in the image of God, then the implication is that it is possible to fully reflect the nature of God. This obviously entails perfection. Some Biblical references will help you get some background...

> Be ye therefore perfect, even as your Father which is in heaven is perfect.
>
> Matthew 5:48

> I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service.
>
> And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.
>
> Romans 12:1,2

> I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me.
>
> Galations 2:20

> But the God of all grace, who hath called us unto his eternal glory by Christ Jesus, after that ye have suffered a while, make you perfect, stablish, strengthen, settle you.
>
> **1 Peter 5:10**
>
> For it became him, for whom are all things, and by whom are all things, in bringing many sons unto glory, to make the captain of their salvation perfect through sufferings.
>
> **Hebrews 2:10**

> That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works.
>
> **2 Timothy 3:17**

Going Beyond the Law

The perfection of this state, however, is not the moral perfection that many may contemplate. To be privy to the very mind of God is to be beyond all Law and Moral restrictions. For the Lord himself is not bound by any law or regulation, neither is the Perfected Parfait. This is why the Perfected Ones are unique among those of the Gnostic Ecclesia, for the very things that would lead the average man or Gnostic to destruction a hundred times over, will lead a Parfait to further perfection !

> For I am Knowledge and ignorance. I am shame and boldness. I.... I am sinless and the root of sin derives from me. I am lust in appearance and yet interior self control exists in me.
>
> **The Thunder, Perfect Mind - Nag Hammadi Library.**

This issue of the Amorality of the Celestial Path is probably the most difficult to understand. It is because of the unique nature of the Parfait and their missions for the Lord of Wisdom that a state of " living beyond the Law " must be achieved. The law is a product of the fallen world and is of some significance within the Dialectic kingdom. However, when a Parfait goes beyond the world and is living as a being

in the Treasury of Light (only temporarily in the lower world) then obviously he is not under dialectic law. The law of the Static Kingdom or The Treasury of Light is Pure freedom since all beings in that world are united in divinity, accordingly, the Parfait is beyond all law. This state of perfection and union with the Mind of God is imperative so the Parfait can achieve the specials tasks the Lord of Wisdom requires of them. While those of Terrestrial Salvation may continue to reincarnate to teach and assist until being resurrected unto perfection. Those on the Celestial Path achieve some measure of perfection in life after many incarnations and become emissaries of the Pleroma.

> For whatsoever is born of God overcometh the world: and this is the victory that overcometh the world, even our faith.
> 1 John 5:4

> They are not of the world, even as I am not of the world.
> John 17:6.

> If therefore it be the Will of God that I should commit sin, my will must be the same, and I must not desire even to abstain from sin
> The Book of Nine Rocks.
> (Beghards)

The fascinating thing about this Amorality is that it is a higher form of Ethics. As discussed in our earlier lessons with reference to Buddhism, both attachment and detachment are "actions and reactions" and hence governed by the Dialectic world. Real asceticism or Celestial ethics comes from being beyond all forms of morality and that includes attachment and detachment. This is embodied in the message found in many Gnostic Gospels. For example in the Gospel of Thomas we read….Whoever has come to understand the world has found a corpse, and whoever has found a corpse is superior to the world.

Being dead to the world is being beyond all things of the Dialectic - including law.

> But if ye be led of the Spirit, ye are not under the law.
> Galations 5:18

This state can be philosophically understood in the sense that the Laws of the lower world took the role of a schoolmaster and hence when the Gnostic has graduated from school, the Law is no longer necessary, it has achieved its purpose. Other explanations could include that Morality is the raft left behind when you have crossed the river and achieved perfection and that after the Flames of Sophia have consumed all sin nothing is left but perfection.

Wherefore the law was our schoolmaster to bring us unto Christ, that we might be justified by faith.

> But after that faith is come, we are no longer under a schoolmaster.
> Galations 3:24,5

The Parfait

There are many groups throughout history whose legacy is still found today in the continuation of the Gnostic Ecclesia. One of the most important was the Cathari. The Cathars means "The Pure Ones" , the term comes from the Greek word Katharos which is translated the purified. Within western Europe these early Gnostics appeared in northern France and the Low Countries toward the late 11th or early 12th century. Persecuted and expelled from the north, the Cathars travelled south and found success in the semi-independent province of Languedoc and the surrounding areas. Here they became known as Albigenses. It is believed the Cathars originally derived from sects such as the Bogomils and Paulicians who originated in such regions as Armenia, Syria and Asia Minor. The Cathars or Albigenses were a distinctly Gnostic sect believing strongly in the Dualism between the Higher and lower worlds and identified the creator of matter with the Demiurge. This creator they called the Rex Mundi or King of the World. They centred their worship on God the Father and the manifestation of the Logos in his Son. They strongly opposed the ecclesiastical hierarchy and they held that the traditional Christian church, with its corrupt clergy and its immense material wealth, was the agent of Satan and was to be avoided.

The Roman Catholic Church initially attempted to reconvert the Albigenses through subtle means. When every attempt failed, Pope Innocent III launched the Albigensian Crusade (circa 1209-29) that annihilated the Albigenses and desolated much of southern France. Small groups of Albigenses survived in isolated areas but were pursued by the Inquisition. There is some debate about the actual teachings of the Cathars. It seems likely that they totally rejected the Old Testament believing it had been written or perhaps corrupted by the Rex Mundi. (This certainly correlates with our belief that the Old Testament had been corrupted by Talmudic scribes and needs to be restored). They certainly also taught reincarnation and a wide range of mystical practises.

One of the central Cathari rituals was that of the Consolamentum, a special form of adult baptism which could be administered only once. It was reserved only for those special Cathars who had attained the level of the " Perfected Ones ". It is believed the rite was preceded by a fast, various ritual forms of preparation and given by the laying on of hands. This rite was taken so seriously that anyone who profaned it by returning to a " material life " was expelled from the community. The Believers, or Credentes were those of the Terrestrial Path and followed a similar path to that of the Perfected Ones, however perfection was not required of them. The Cathari form a major link in the lineage of the Modern Mysteries and sustained the Esoteric teachings while under persecution from the Fallen Church and transmitted them, via small sects and cults, to today's Gnostics.

Wisdom from India

To give an example from Hinduism of the Amoral Path. We find in traditional Hindu (Aryan-Vedic) Tantra there are two distinct traditions, The Right and Left Hand Path. These have nothing to do with White and Black magic as the ignorant suggest but are two distinct methodologies of redemption. The Right hand Path is symbolic and the images regarding sexuality are applied symbolically with strict moral codes enforced. The Left Hand Path is literal and uses the very things that the Right Hand Path condemns to achieve liberation. These two paths have many similarities to the Terrestrial and Celestial traditions. For more information we can turn to Julius Evola's excellent text The Yoga of Power for details of the different traditions within the Buddhist Tantra's...

There is a significant difference between the two Tantric paths, that of the Right hand and that of the Left hand.

In the former the adept always experiences someone above him even at the highest level of realisation. In the latter he becomes the Ultimate Sovereign . In the Buddhist Tantras, Buddha paradoxically upholds the relativity of every moral precept, the uselessness of worship, the insignificance of the five precepts of early Buddhism, and even of the triple homage of the Buddhist tradition in terms so blunt that at monastic gatherings the Bodhisattvas who are on their way toward enlightenment faint (the terrestrial Path) while the Tathagatas (Celestial Path) the enlightened ones remain unmoved. (Notes in Brackets Ours)]

The Yogin obtains liberation through the same actions that should keep in Hell any other man for ages unending.

Jnanasiddhi.

These discussions are also found in many other esoteric eastern works. For example the Manava-Dharmashatra, one of the older Indo-Aryan works, flaunts the great powers that a Brahman has and how far he has come beyond the law. The example we earlier gave regarding the fire which removes all impurity is repeated many times with the resulting perfectionist state emphasised. This tradition of Amorality arising from total achievement of divinity is characteristic of the inner Mystery tradition in both the east and the West. Throughout all periods of Church history right up until today secret sects have upheld the perfectionist doctrine, these have ranged from the Brethren of the Free Spirit to the Cathars and modern Gnostic Orders. Certainly the Gnostic Gospels (Nag Hammadi) well illustrate the Perfectionist teaching. The focus on being beyond the Law also includes the sinless state, because, theoretically, if one is beyond the Law then there can be no sin as sin is recognised only by the conviction of the Law.

Where there is no Law, there is no sin

Romans 5:13

> He who has knowledge of the Truth is a free man, but the free man does not sin, for who sins is the slave of sin
>
> Gospel of Phillip 1:20

While, of course, Celestial Transfiguration does not accept or condone the misuse of the perfect state (perhaps that in itself is proof of a lack of perfection !), it is quite clear that many of the secret teachings included within the technology of Transfiguration use methods that are way beyond the conventional morality of " modern " western Christianity. While we realise this may come as a quite a shock for those accustomed to the morality of " Fundamentalist Christians ", the evidence for such an inner tradition which leads to a state beyond Law is found in all early Gnostic teachings. We are not however encouraging " free for all " morality since it is clear that the Celestial Path is for the few and far between and can destroy those who enter it unprepared. However, for those of a special calling a life beyond conventional Law and Ethics will be the result. The actual Path of Celestial Transfiguration involves a special spiritual technology which was revealed by Jesus after his resurrection to his disciples, with final revelations being given to his brother James in what are now known as the Mysteries. The Gnostic Apostolic Church is at present researching and restoring these technologies. For the moment we will simply introduce you to some facets of the Path.

Gnostic and archonic Occultism

In a world governed by propaganda and media manipulation Occultism has a very bad name. From the press we hear constantly of human sacrifice, violence, murder, destruction and evil in the name of Occultism and Magick. The problem, however, arises when we critically examine the claims that are made. The term Occultism, for example, simply means "unknown", in medicine, for example, you can have occult bleeding (bleeding which has an unknown origin). Magick (whether you spell it with a K or a C) comes from the Science of the Magi and is related to the early traditions of Persia, particularly Zoroasterianism and has little in common with its image propagated by the Media. It seems somewhat strange that most of the extreme claims of destruction that are associated with Occultism come from Christian fundamentalism sources, sources which, in most cases, have a strong link to Zionism and are hence intricately connected to the very bodies who manipulate

the media that controls the thinking of the average man on the street.

In the Gnostic tradition we do not ignore the power of evil nor overestimate it. The Gnostic tradition affirms that a being was cast down from the heavens and due to this fall gained dominion over the earth and caused the destruction we know as material existence. Further, the Gnostic tradition believes that Satan or the Demi-urge has control over matter itself, as matter was not originally part of the divine plan. However, over the centuries the apostate Christian church has carefully and with deliberation moved areas of Occultism and esoteric teachings into what it calls " the Satanic " arena to stop Christians (and others) studying it. For example, the Kabbalah, the original esoteric traditions behind the Old Testament are pictured as sorcery and worse, yet represent the original spiritual " code " on which the Old Testament itself was based. (It is fairly clear why the Kabbalah is debunked for it shows how badly distorted the Old Testament really is !).

In the Gnostic tradition there is a whole secret tradition known as Sethianic Occultism which encompasses an esoteric and inner technology of power. It has a light and dark side and is only for those prepared to drink deep from the well of Gnosis. At the same time there is a fallen Occultism, a Satanic tradition which corrupts the teachings and distorts the mind. In the Media and in the apostate Church, these two are mixed together and again error is taught as truth. Many of the most sublime Sethian mysteries are denounced as Satanism and the secret wisdom of the Pleroma is blasphemed and adjured.

Sethian Vs Satanic

Let us now consider the meaning of these two forms of wisdom. Sethian Occultism is the original pure Gnosis or Wisdom, while Satanism is the fallen and corrupted form. Satanel (The unfallen Lucifer) had the Secret Wisdom, Satan corrupted it. Abel had the secret Wisdom, Cain defiled it. Since Abel was killed, Seth was given the wisdom and he transmitted it onwards. His name Set(h) implies clearly that he held the original secret wisdom that Satanel, Set, Sht, Seth (etc.) held but lost. Hence there are two forms of occult wisdom both linked to the root form of S and T, these letters in Hebrew are Shin and Teth and represent the Divine Fire and the Serpent of Wisdom.

We can therefore clearly see that the Gnosis or Wisdom is the secret teachings, the Light or Fire wisdom that in Old Testament times was symbolised by the Serpent. The Serpent was not and is not a symbol of evil but of wisdom. Biblical imagery gives us two forms of the Serpent, the divine and the fallen, the Sethianic and the Satanic. In Numbers, for example, we have Moses making a fiery serpent to heal Israel and this serpent has the same numerical value as Jesus himself ! In John 3:14 Jesus is compared to the Serpent which Moses held up in the wilderness, while in Matthew 10:16 Jesus tells us to be as " wise as serpents. At the same time we have the the use of the serpent as an image of corrupt wisdom throughout the Scriptures. Accordingly we need to understand that Occultism (the Serpent) can be both divine and diabolic and that there is a secret tradition of Occultism that is righteous and Israelite.

> Behold, I send you forth as sheep in the midst of wolves: be ye therefore wise as serpents, and harmless as doves.
>
> **Matthew 10:16**

The Sethian Mysteries get their name from Seth the child of Adam and Eve which replaced Abel. Seth transmitted the secret wisdom of Adam onto the children of men. This wisdom originated with the Light beings (Lucifers) but did not come via Satan or the fallen one. The false Gnosis which came via the fallen One was transmitted via Cain and became the Satanic traditions. The Sethian Mysteries include both Light and Dark traditions and it is incorrect to assume that all dark teachings are naturally evil. For example, Kali, the Hindu Goddess of death is a superb image of the cessation of false ego and hence rather than being Satanic in nature actually represents an image of higher development. At the same time the Satanic mysteries offer us a corrupt image of Kali in the various cults who actually kill in her name. This is one of the major difficulties with these subjects, since Satan was once a Lucifer or Light Bearer, the Satanic Mysteries have much in common with the Sethian, but offer a corrupted and substituted form. This can be best illustrated in the clear connection between Judaic and Zionist Kabbalah and the true Sumerian Kabbalistic teachings. Both are remarkably similar in form and to some extent in content, yet the Sumerian is Pure, the Judaic is poison.

As the apostate Christian Church gained political power and the Gnostics were

driven underground, the Sethian Occult traditions were suppressed and all Occultism was decried as evil and Satanic. By doing so the Church was able to foster its own false form of political Christianity on the world and deceive mankind into believing they are following the words of the Light and Jesus. In reality they are following Satanically inspired substitutes.

Divination

In the Old Testament we certainly find a strange ambivalence to divination, it is sometimes condemned and sometimes not, only when we realise that there are true and false forms, Israelite and " foreign " occultism do we gain a better understanding of why this is so. For example, Qecem is used eleven times in the Old testament for Divination, however, its clear definition is not always evil. Though it can mean divination of false prophets and of foreign nations (Balaam), It can also mean oracles from the lips of a king. (Strongs Concordance Number 7081). It comes from Qecam which seems to suggest a method of divining by lots etc. This term also seems related to Nachash (Strongs concordance number 5172) which means both divination and (5175) a serpent or snake and hence again refers back to both possible understandings of Occultism. The snake bite could kill and yet the Bronze serpent could heal (Numbers 21;6-9), the serpent Gnosis if used correctly is Divine (Sethianic) yet used for evil is Satanic. Certainly, divination is forbidden in certain sections of the Old Testament code but what would one expect from the Archon Yahweh, he wants to keep things controlled and only allows his own form of Divination. In some sense it is even amazing that the above references survived hidden in the forms of the original language, but they clearly show how even in its corrupted present state, the Old Testament still includes divination and occultism..

The Bible itself is centred on spiritual experiences which, in many cases, can be directly related to spiritual practises which today we would called Occultic. Meditation, Healing, Miracles, Divination...all are parts of a valid and secret tradition which we could understand as Sethian Occultism. Just as there are clearly true and false miracles, true and false teachings, there is True and False Occultism....The Sethian Vs the Satanic Mysteries.

When the modern Christian Church condemns all Occultism it is actually condemn-

ing itself. The modern apostate Churches by indulging in Ecumenicalism and preaching Salvation to all men have watered down the original Gnosis to such an extent that their very teachings have become Sorcery or Satanism in Biblical terms. The terms used throughout the Bible in relation to divination and occultism emphasise the twisting of knowledge and the misuse of divine wisdom, of which the best illustration is found within the Christian church itself. By modifying the teachings of Jesus to suit their own needs the Christian Church has fed the movements which have become what is understand as modern Satanism. However, in some sense the modern Christian Church is more Satanic than the Satanic cults themselves as they pass themselves off as representing the teachings of the Pleroma and Jesus. And in this is no greater blasphemy.

The Transformation of the Mind and the Mysteries of the Kabbalah

> What is Kabbalah ?
>
> The word means Tradition.
>
> It was believed that when God gave the Law to Moses he gave also a second revelation as to the secret meaning of the Law.
>
> This esoteric tradition was said to have been passed down the ages orally by initiates. It was a mysticism and a cult but rooted in the text of the Scriptures, in the Hebrew language, the holy language in which God had spoken to man
>
> **Dame Francis Yates.**

As we discussed in earlier chapters the Kabbalah is an esoteric framework which was transmitted through the early Israelite Mystery tradition. It offers a way to understand the structure or prototype on which all of creation is formed. Even though there was a fall and a decay, the structure or plan behind the system is still intact and hence the Kabbalah offers us a way to not only understand the universe but experience it. The Kabbalah has many different forms, two of the most relevant are the Tree of Life and Letter Mysticism.

The Tree of Life is a structural design which has Ten centres known as Sephiroth and twenty two links or Paths. The Ten centres are logically formed from the evolution from a Point, to a Line, to a Triangle and ending in a Pyramid. The Paths are attributed to the Twenty two letters of the Hebrew Alphabet and to the Three Elements, Seven Planets and Twelve Astrological Signs. From these basic attributions a whole world of Correspondences can be created. (Figure 20)

> Come and behold the letters by which the heavens and earth were created, the letters by which He created hills and mountains, the letters by which were created rivers and seas, the letter by which were created the trees and herbs.
>
> The Book of Enoch.

> Yah, The Lord of Hosts, the living God. King of the Universe, ordained and created the universe in twenty two mysterious paths. Namely out of the Seraphim who art three: Idea, Word and Word in form, which are in him one and the same.
>
> They consist of a decade out of nothing and twenty two fundamental letters, he divided them into three holy divisions, the three mother letters, fundamental or first elements, the seven double and the twelve single.
>
> Sepher Yetzirah

Probably one of the better descriptions of the nature of these correspondences is found in the book 777. (A correspondence text derived from the Golden Dawn and later adapted by various western Magicians and Mystics).

Qabalah is...

> (A) A Language fitted to describe certain classes of phenomena and to express certain classes of ideas which escape regular phraseology...

No.	Title.	Hebrew Symbolism.	Tarot Card Symbolism.
1.	Aleph.	The Ox.	The Fool.
2.	Beth	The House of God	The Magician
3.	Gimel	The Camel	High Priestess
4.	Daleth	The Door	The Empress
5.	He	The Window	The Emperor
6.	Vau	The Pin	The Hierophant
7.	Zain	The Sword	The Lovers
8.	Cheth	The Fence	The Chariot
9.	Teth	The Snake	Strength
10.	Yod	The Hand	The Hermit
11.	Kaph	The Fist	The Wheel of Fortune
12.	Lamed	The Ox Goad	Justice
13.	Mem	Blood and Water	The Hanged Man.
14.	Nun	The Fish	Death
15.	Samekh	The Prop	Temperance
16.	Ayin	The Eye	Devil
17.	Pe	The Mouth	Tower
18.	Tzaddi	The Hook	Star
19.	Qoph	The Ear	Moon
20.	Resh	The Head	Sun
21.	Shin	The Tooth	Last Judgement
22.	Tau	The Cross	The World.

Mother Letters: Mem, Shin and Aleph - attributed to the Three Elements of Fire, Air and Water.

Double Letters: Beth, Gimel, Daleth, Kaph, Pe, Resh and Tau - attributed to Seven Planets of Saturn, Jupiter, Mars, Sun, Venus, Mercury and Luna.

Single Letters: He, Vau, Zain, Cheth, Teth, Yod, Lamed, Nun, Samekh, Ayin, Tzaddi and Qoph - attributed to the Twelve Signs of the Zodiac.

Fig 20

(B) An unsectarian and elastic terminology by means of which it is possible to equate the mental processes of people apparently diverse owing to the constraint imposed upon them by the peculiarities of their literary expression....

(C) A system of symbolism which enables thinkers to formulate their ideas with complete precision and to find simple expression for complex thoughts, especially such as include previously disconnected orders of conception.

(D) An instrument for interpreting symbols whose meaning has become obscure, forgotten or misunderstood by establishing a necessary connection between the essence of forms, sounds and simple ideas (such as number) and their spiritual, moral or intellectual equivalents..

(E) A system of omniform ideas so as to enable the mind to increase its vocabulary of thoughts and facets through organising and correlating them.

(F) An instrument for proceeding from the known to the unknown on similar principles to those of mathematics.

(G) A system of criteria by which the truth of correspondences may be tested with a view to criticising new discoveries in the light of their coherence with the whole body of truth.

The importance of the Tree of Life is hence intellectual as well as spiritual. It offers secret keys for interpreting and understanding the Bible as well as offering mystical and meditative technologies for transcending the World of the Archons. Closely related to the Tree of Life is the processes of Letter Mysticism. Simply put, each of the Hebrew letters is related to numerical and symbolic concepts and hence a word in the Bible is not only what it says on the surface but has deeper meanings. The Hebrew letters hold many Mysteries we are only now just unlocking. In the Sepher Yetzirah it is suggested that the Hebrew letters were the actual building blocks of

creation, accordingly, if correctly understood and used, their power is awesome.

> God engraved His holy name and formed and created the universe in thirty two mysterious sequences, by numbers, letters and sound which are in him
> **Sepher Yetzirah.**

Some of the techniques related to Letter mysticism include practical meditative and ritual methods as well as interpretative keys to understanding the Bible. These keys are known as Gematria.

Gematria

Before we discuss Gematria we need discuss the nature of the Kabbalah. In modern mysticism there has been much talk of the Jewish Kabbalah and the Mysticism of modern Judaism. This is all, clearly, total nonsense. The original Kabbalah was Israelite (and Aryan) and was passed onto the various migrating lost Tribes. Many Edomite scribes in Babylon got hold of the secret texts of the Israelites and recorded them as though they were their own. Hence, the modern claimants to the Kabbalah, the title Israel, the Bible and other originally Israelite beliefs have no real right to them ! The Kabbalah is the secret teachings of the true tribes of Israel, Western Man, Aryan man, not the modern Jews who aren't really Jews at all !

Gematria is the basis of understanding the secret of the Hebrew letters. Each of the Hebrew letters is assigned a number, colour and a wide range of correspondences. By studying the numerical meaning of a word or sentence an esoteric explanation can be found. In addition words of similar number have special vibratory connections. A simple example is the Serpent which Moses held up to heal the Israelites in Numbers 11:9. The name of the serpent was Nachash and its number was 358. This is also the Number of the Messiah. Hence the healing of the people by a snake nailed to a cross was symbolic of the coming gnosis of the Messiah. There are many different forms of Gematria including Basic Gematria. Notarikon and Temura. A comprehensive study of Gematria and Kabbalah will be made in a special course called The Restored Kabbalah and will be available soon.

The Secret of the Qadesh

> Jesus said " When you make the two one, and when you make the inside like the outside, and the outside like the inside, and the above like the below and when you make the male and the female one and the same, so that the male not be male nor the female female.....then you will enter the Kingdom ".
>
> The Gospel of Thomas 2:38.

Within the oldest Gnostic traditions we find that a further division is made within the spiritual classes. While we have before outlined the hierarchy of races and the evolutionary strata as illustrated in Jacob's ladder, a similar pattern exists within the spiritual school itself. The Psychic or Dove class are allowed to reproduce (though not encouraged) and in some sense fulfil the role of creating new Adamic children, however, those of the Serpent class are not permitted to reproduce and in the many traditions were defined as gender-variant or homosexual. This fact alone explains a lot about descriptions of the Essenes and others being celibate, the meaning of course, was more non-reproductive than altogether non-sexual. This early tradition centred on a special priestclass known as the Qadesh or Holy ones, they sustained the Mysteries and were the innermost initiates. As the Bible fell into the hands of the Edomite scribes this class was expunged from the text and homosexuals and the gender variant were turned into the most evil of all criminals. Of course, this was a simple way for the apostate scribes to write themselves into history and the original priestclass out !

There are so many examples of the Qadesh class hidden within the Old Testament, the "coat of many colours" for example, was a ritual garment worn by a Sumerian gender-variant priest, in the Bible the coat survives but the context does not. It seems clear for example that the story of Sodom and Gomorrah was actually a tale re-moulded by the scribes to suggest a battle between two religious traditions that of the town of Sodom or Qadesh and the warrior cult of Yahweh. There are many other Biblical examples, certainly the homo-erotic relationship between David and Jonathan in the Old Testament springs to mind. While we do not wish to belabour the point certainly all early Aryan traditions suggest a special elite homosexual (or

at least gender variant) priestly class. The Epic of Gilgamesh has a special relationship between Gilgamesh and Enkidu, the Druids and Celts were renowned for homosexual priest activity and certainly the Shaman traditions of early cultures focused on gender variant activity.

This understanding of reproduction is central to the Gnostic view of sexuality. While reproduction may be necessary for the propagation of the species, it is by its very nature fallen and only occurs as a result of our fall into matter. Accordingly, those who choose this path can only be initiated into the Path of the Dove, in future lives it was envisaged in the old texts they would reincarnate in forms suitable to enter the Qadesh priesthood.

The reason behind the Qadesh priesthood is quite simple. Reproduction has an energy field which gravitates towards propagation of the species and hence sustaining the dialectic. Accordingly though this field can be modified and a certain liberation achieved (the path of the Dove) only by total rejection of this field can full liberation be gained. While a heterosexual can certainly achieve this, it is probably more difficult for them to reject the reproductive urges programmed in their cellular structure than for a homosexual. At the same time the Path of the Serpent is non-discriminatory, reproduction and reproductive values are the enemy, not sexual preference. The aim therefore, for those on the terrestrial path is to control the flesh. If reproduction is absolutely necessary, and in the Kali Yuga we certainly doubt it, then we should apply eugenics to ensure the best possible Adamic bodies for the incarnation of future souls. The aim, however, of the Celestial Path and the Qadesh is obviously very different.

The Bridal Chamber

The aim of those on the celestial path is to achieve liberation in the body, accordingly the energy fields of the organism must be transformed to a point whereby they will survive the effect of the manifestation of the Pneumatic Spark from the Treasury of Light. Therefore many of the technologies of the Celestial path use methods which actually change the energy form of the organism One of the central techniques used is known as the Bridal Chamber. This ritual was unique to

the pre-Christian Gnostics and was carried into Christian Gnosticism, it was also clearly alluded to in the early celebrations of the Eucharist and Agape Feast In later history the Mystery of the Transformation of Eros was reflected in the traditions of courtly love in Medieval England and France and the imagery of Alchemy (particularly in the Mass of the Holy Ghost).

The Bridal chamber is based on the process of Solve et coagula. After the Ruach and Nephesh have been "destroyed" and reformed, the two poles of the electromagnetic organism (Astral Body) are stimulated and at their union the Shekinah awakens. (The Shekinah or presence is that part of God which is locked in the lower worlds and awaits redemption) As the Shekinah awakens it rises to the higher planes and re-unites with the Sophia. This rite is central to many Gnostic traditions and is the pre-requisite for the Consolamentum or The Sacrament of Perfection. Again, we understand that this new appreciation of sexuality and its practical use within the Celestial path may be difficult for those used to the straight-jacket morality of many modern religions.

However, we can perhaps best defend our position in this regards, by repeating some of the defences used by an Abbess in the trial of a 18th Century Dominician Order of Saint Catherine, which was accused of immoral conduct..

> As our spirit is free, it is only the intention that can make an action wicked. It is enough, therefore, to lift ourselves in our minds to God and then nothing is sinful. To practise that which we mistakenly call impurity is true purity, which God wishes and bids us to practise and without which we have no way of finding God, who is Truth.
>
> Vie de Sciptone de Ricci .
>
> Brussels 1895

Chapter Eleven: The Secret of the Seven Churches

This study is an introduction to one of the more important aspects of the Transfiguration process. At first glance the festivals of Aryan cultures may seem simply to be times for folk celebarations or social gatherings. However, behind these festivals is a special key which not only reveals and explains certain esoteric teachings found within the Kabbalah but which offers us a practical interpretation of the technology of rebirth. This technology is based on the understanding that the Treasury of Light and the World of the Archons work on opposing vibratory levels. The Static and Dialectic fields are not only opposite but totally exclusive, accordingly, if a person is in tune with the Dialectic fields it is not possible (in any sense) to commune with the Static fields. Therefore the World of the Archons not only has dominion over the physical plane but has full and utter control over all facets of the spiritual lives of those it dominates. The Solar Feasts offer a scheme by which the Gnostic can align himself with the Static currents and slowly detach himself from the Dialectic fields. These feasts hence hold a central place within the technology of the Mysteries.

Earth Vs Gnostic Celebrations

The various festivals and celebrations of false religions align themselves to the earth forces. Though we acknowledge and indeed encourage a respect for the earth as it is a glyph or image of Sophia. We must state categorically that since the earth or matter is fallen and the Archonic Kingdom has dominion over the planet, to worship the earth and celebrate its fallen cycles is to give the Fallen Ones dominion. The traditional Pagan cycles of the Solstices and equinoxes can be clearly celebrated in two distinct fashions. As festivals which celebrate the energies which radiate from the Solar Sphere (Static) and as cyclic processes (Dialectic). The use of Nature festivals as worship of the earth reflects the Dialectic fields not the Static. The four Pagan feasts of the Solstices and Equinoxes as understood in modern pagan movements

reflect the return and rebirth of nature and hence are a total corruption of the original Druidic festivals. Most modern pagan festivals in reality reflect the process of "eternal re-occurrence" - man living and dying and returning to the earth and the earth giving forth more of mankind. Nowhere in this mythology is there any room for the redemption of the earth or for the deification of mankind, the very central focal points of Gnosticism. In the original Druidic teachings as in the Gnostic festivals of the Sun, the celebrations are based on a similar series of feasts but focus on the Gnostic redemption of man through the Solar force and hence reflect the pure imagery of the Treasury of Light. The two interpretations of the Feasts show again how the same information can be twisted and distorted by the Demiurgic forces to lead man away from the truth, both Static and Dialectic forces use the same feasts, one to liberate, the other to enslave. For the Gnostic the Solar Festivals of the Solstices and Equinoxes reflect the energies of the Sun and their use in liberating mankind as well as correlating to the greater seasons with the Platonic year. To fully understand how these feasts and festivals work we need to study the Key of Seven.

The Key of Seven

> These seven are the eyes of the LORD, which range throughout the earth.
>
> **Zechariah 4:10**

As the founder of the Gnostic Apostolic Church poured over the Biblical, Gnostic and Kabbalistic texts a special light was given in regards to the key to the Mysteries. Central to the festivals is the number seven as it is used throughout the Bible and early Aryan literature to refer to perfection and transfiguration, whether it be directly related to the Seven Churches or to the Solar Festivals it is central to our understanding. This special number provides a series of correspondences that unlock the nature of Transfiguration itself. If we relate together the Seven Churches of Revelation, the Seven Days of Creation and The Solar Festivals we begin to get a picture of a technology of the transfiguration of man. When these are related to other esoteric schemes such as the Seven Planes, Seven Bodies, Seven Chakras, the Seven Spirits of God and so forth the picture becomes complete. If we appreciate that the body totally transforms on a cellular level every seven years and goes through a major transition after 49 years we have a hint that the spiritual process has a special and secret practical meaning beyond that of correspondences and specula-

The Basic Key of Seven

Church.	Location.	Meaning of Name
Church of Ephesus.	Base Centre.	Desirable.
Church of Smyrna.	Sacral Centre.	Sweet-Smelling.
Church of Pergamus.	Solar Plexus.	Elevation & Height.
Church of Thyatira.	Heart Centre.	Sacrifice.
Church of Sardis.	Throat Centre.	That which Remains.
Church of Philadelphia.	Ajna Centre.	Agape (love).
Church of Laodicea.	Sahasrara Centre.	Judgement.

Fig 21

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tion. Before we actually outline the Solar feasts we need to explore the basic foundations on which they operate, these foundations are found hidden within the teachings regarding the Seven Churches of Revelation. (Fig 21)

The Seven Churches and The Physiology of the Mysteries

The Seven Churches of the Revelation of Jesus Christ to St.John have many meanings. In keeping with multiple levels of interpretation the Churches can be understood as messages relating to historical Churches of the period, messages related to the Seven periods of Church History, and in the most esoteric of interpretations, to the Seven Spiritual centres of the body. This last interpretation in conjunction with our discussion of the festivals is the most important, for it illustrates how each feast works to transmute the dialectic fields of the psychic organism into the Static. The Seven Churches of Revelation may be related to the Seven psychic centres or Chakras of the Etheric body, all of the teachings given to each Church (warnings, blessings etc.) relate to the consciousness and the activity at that level. To begin with we should examine a basic tabulation of the structure. These attributions illustrate how each Church can be understood as a centre of energy within the body, even though the energy is Astral-Etheric in nature it still radiates into the physical organism. In the pioneering work, The Theories of the

The Four Attributes

Church.	Colour.	Consciousness.	Physical Influence.
Ephesus.	Red.	Action, Sensation.	Adrenals.
Smyrna.	Orange.	Social Consciousness.	Sexual Organs.
Pergamus.	Yellow.	Intellect.	Pancreas, Liver etc.
Thyatira.	Green.	Security and Devotion.	Thymus. Heart.
Sardis.	Blue.	Idealism.	Thyroid, Larynx.
Philadelphia.	Indigo.	Intuition.	Pituitary Gland.
Laodicea.	Violet.	Imagination.	Pineal Gland.

Fig 22

Chakras by Dr.Hiroshi Motoyama (Quest Books, 1981), Dr. Motoyama is even able to show the energy of these centres links with the Nadis or energy lines of traditional acupuncture. Each of these centres is related to a state of consciousness and a colour. The states of consciousness can also be discovered by an esoteric reading of the seven days of creation in Genesis.

The Four Attributes of the Churches

The four attributes of each Church helps us to understand the unique nature of each of the energy centres. These centres are central to the process of transforming the electromagnetic field of the Gnostic from the Dialectic to the Static. The Kundalini or Serpent power based in the lowest centre is energised in such a way that the Serpent Seed of Satan (the Taint of original Sin) is replaced by the Serpent of Wisdom (the Messiah). It is interesting to find that this transition is reflect in the Old testament tale of Moses holding up the Serpent to heal the people of Israel. The serpent mentioned is numerically coded as 358 which is also the number of the Messiah. The four attributes of each Church as given in the Book of Revelation are Characteristics of the Church and City, Commendation of the Church, Counsel and Warning and Promises to Overcomers. To understand these centres let us examine the esoteric meanings of the attributes of each Church. (Fig 22)

The Church of Ephesus

The Church of Ephesus is the Base Chakra, the term Chakra means Wheel or Circuit of energy. It is known by the name of Desirable and is that of the primal instincts. It is desired by and desires the Sahasrara (Laodicea) Centre. The union of these centres locks the organism into the Static currents of the Treasury of Light.

The Characteristics of the City is that of change, the change from earthly to Gnostic Worship. This represents the transmutation of purely " nature" oriented vibrations into forces which serve the spiritual goal. This technology includes the correct use of all passions and desires and the focus of these energies on the process of Transfiguration. The key here is that all drives and goals must be focused on the Pleroma.

The Commendation of the Church is given for its patience and labour and because it has not fainted. These images refer to the immense patience and labour required to keep control over the energies of the base centre. The ideal situation would be total awareness at all time, hence, we must not faint, so to speak.

The Counsel and Warning is that the Church has left its true Love. This clearly refers to the need for the base centre to be always directed to the Higher worlds and Yahveh. Whether it is swayed by family, lust, desire or even love, any movement away from the goal is "sin". (The word Sin literally means "to miss the mark").

The Promise offered to those who correctly use the base Chakra is the ability to "eat from the Tree of Life". This has many different shades of meaning ranging from the promise of immortality to the liberation of the Self through the activation of the Tree of Life within the Being of the Gnostic.

The Church of Smyrna

The Church of Smyrna is the Svadhisthana Chakra in the Hindu system or in our terms the Sacral Centre. It is known by the name of Sweet Smelling and is related to the sexual organs. The sweet smell refers to the Ojas or psychic force which

dwells within the energy which flows through the organism of both the male and female.

The Characteristics of the city include Life, earthquakes, plagues, fires and massacres. These refer to the intense dangers associated with the energies of this centre. It is the centre of Sexual fire and when the base centre is activated and force is manifested at this level it must be totally controlled so that the energies continue on upwards towards redemption. Loss of control means destruction. A relevant maxim here is that " all acts of sex are acts of power ". Related to this characteristic is the Mystery of the Terrestrial and Celestial Paths, while both paths may use the feasts and activate the energy centres very different technologies are used. The very things that are forbidden to those of the Terrestrial Path are used by those of the Celestial to achieve liberation.

The Commendation given to the Church is for standing strong in the time of tribulation and persecution. This refers again to the great discipline required to control this energy centre. While the base centre refers to all manners of desire, this centre is clearly Sexual in nature and demands initiated control.

The Counsel and Warning is against hypocrites and blasphemers. These descriptions refer to those who either use esoteric techniques to gain further pleasure and control over others rather than spiritual Growth. And to the supposed Modern Christian Churches who have no knowledge of the inner teachings and of pithy morality and prejudice in the place of wisdom.

The Promise is the gift of the Crown of Life. That is reaching the Crown of the Tree of Life, the Top of the Head Centre (Kether).

The Church of Pergamos

The Church of Pergamos is the Solar Plexus Chakra. It is known as Elevation or Height as it governs the balance of the organism through its central position.
It is also elevated in that it governs and controls the lower Chakras.

The Characteristic of the city is that of being the Capital where the supreme court and Priests of Babylon sit in Judgement. It can hence be understood that the Pergamos is the seat of control and judgement. However, there is clearly a great danger, for the Priests of Babylon are fallen, hence, it is imperative that our control is focused on the True Self and the Pleroma, rather than on factes of the lower personality or body.

The Commendation of the Church is given because it holds fast to what it has been taught, has not denied the faith and has accepted the fact there are and will be many martyrs due to the stand they have taken. This relates to the achievement of balance through the Solar Plexus which demands separation from the world and holding secure to the Static currents even while there is persecution from the Fallen world.

The Counsel and Warning is the message that the Church holds many conflicting doctrines and must repent. This can be understood on two levels, firstly, one cannot serve two masters. Beliefs must be either Static or Dialectic, unless you are totally separated from the world and centred on the Treasury of Light then you are under Dialectic Dominion (whether you admit or not). Secondly, within the psyche there will be many Dialectic programs which we carry with us into the spiritual life, they must be rooted out and destroyed.

The Promise offered to those who correctly use this Chakra include the eating of the Hidden Manna and the Gift of the White stone with a new name engraved on it. These promises are highly symbolic; the Hidden Manna represents a special stage known in the Alchemical process of Self transformation. It is also sometimes known as the White Powder, it is a stage prior to the Philosophers Stone.

This substance is symbolic of the processes of internal transformation that are working through Transfiguration.

The Church of Thyatira

The Church of Thyatira is the Heart or Anahata Chakra. It is called the centre of "Sacrifice or Contrition" as it involves the sacrifice of the body and mind to the

Higher Self (Yechidah) and to the Lord of Wisdom.

The Characteristic of the city is that it was a manufacturing town with a altar dedicated to Apollo. These two characteristics are very important; the first represents the power of the heart centre, when properly activated it manufactures static forces which transform the organism. The second characteristic represents the importance of the Mystery teachings. Through modern scholarship it has been discovered that many of the Greek Mysteries complemented and fulfilled the ancient Hebrew teachings and hence Apollo represents the need to complete our understanding of the nature of all things.

The Commendation of the church is fourfold. Charity, Service, Faith and Patience. Each of these attributes should be central to the Gnostic Life.

The Counsel and Warning is against false teachers, fornication and meat offered to idols. These warnings can be understood in two distinct ways. Firstly, they are a warning against contact with the World of the Archons. False teachers, Fornication (not sex per see but sex with those of the Fallen world) and meat offered to idols (Fallen Gods) - all images or facets of the fallen system. In a more esoteric manner, these images can be related to fallen aspects of ourselves. The False teachers are forces within the Psyche which would draw the Gnostic back into the World of the Archons. Fornication is the internal desire for union with worldly things and food offered to idols represents false Gods or idols we may have within our own psyche. How many Gnostics are still beguiled by internal demands for fame, money, achievement, material gain etc.

The Promise offered to those who use this centre correctly is the Gift of the Morning Star. The Morning Star is Venus or Lucifer and represents the state of "Light Bearing". This is an allegorical way to represent the awakening of the Light or Static fields within the Gnostic.

The Church of Sardis

The Church of Sardis is the Throat or Visuddha Chakra. It is given the title of " That which remains " as it is the portal before entering the higher Chakras. It has a similar meaning in the Kabbalistic systems.

The Characteristic of the City is Death. It is the centre of warning and echoes either power or destruction. A further characteristic of this city is that it is a city whose glory has passed away, this emphasises the role of this centre in regards to the transformation of the Mind. The Voice or Logos is also indicated by the Throat and hence the old mind (Ruach) must pass away and the new mind must be formed through the power of the Logos.

The Commendation to the Church is that there are a few who have not defiled the Mysteries. This is a clear message that only a small number can really use this centre correctly and transmute the Psyche and achieve communion with the Logos.

The Counsel and Warning is Hold Fast and Watch. It is clear and precise, to achieve transfiguration takes steadfastness and awareness.

The Promise is that those who correctly use this centre will be confessed before the Father. That is, they will return to the Pleroma. It also has a Kabbalistic meaning, confession before the father means crossing the abyss and being reborn as a master in the Supernals (the top three centres of the Tree of Life). This is to be confessed or witnessed by the Father or Kether.

The Church of Philadelphia

The Church of Philadelphia is the Third Eye or Ajna (Brow) Chakra. It is given the title of Brotherly Love because of the awesome power of its nature. The insight and force of this centre can only be understood when experienced through Agape of Divine Love. Only by truly desiring to return to the Treasury of Light and having

true Love for the Pleroma can this force be correctly awakened and experienced.

The Characteristic of the city is its ability to grow and spread. This is symbolic of the great power of this centre and its ability to transfigure the whole organism at its awakening.

The Commendation of the Church is for its keeping of the Word. The word here is the Logos, the power manifested in the Throat centre but originating in the Ajna. Only by communion with the Logos and Love for the Lord of Wisdom can the Ajna be awakened.

The Counsel and Warning is that there will be a temptation to make others worship at your feet. No semblance of fallen self can be allowed to remain when awakening this force. Any dialectic field will cause destruction.

The Promise offered to those who overcome this centre is that they will be made a Pillar in the Temple of God. That is, they will have their whole Chakra System (Middle Pillar) activated and they will become immortal.

The Church of Laodicea

The Church of Laodicea is the Sahasrara or Crown Centre. It is located above the top of the head and is known as Judging the People. Its name suggests the immense and total power of this centre, it is that of Divinity, Godhood, Static Deification. Through this enlightened state the whole universe and world is seen for what it really is and judged accordingly.

The characteristic of the city is a final warning, arrogance, compromise and destruction will be the "reward" of those who do not awaken to this state correctly. The characteristic of those who have achieved a high level of spiritual development correctly Godhood.

The Commendation has also been removed from the description. There is no second chance here, either perfection or destruction.

The Counsel and Warning is similar, be Zealous and not lukewarm.

> So then because thou art lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will spew thee out of my mouth.
> **Revelation 3:16**

The Promise is that those who correctly open this centre and unite all the Centres as one will reach Divinity, will achieve Liberation.

The Physiology of the Mysteries: An Overview

To fully appreciate the system that is being outlined the Gnostic needs to consider the basis of the structure. We believe that The Lord of Wisdom has not simply outlined a scheme of Solar Festivals to re-align Aryan man with the Treasury of Light but that hidden within other sections of the Bible (notably the Seven Days of Creation and the Seven Churches of Revelation) he has provided a practical means to transform our energy fields. This technology is based on a simple esoteric physiology as the Chakric System. The structure of this system is fairly simple, along the spinal column there are three para-physical canals, the centre of the Column (the Sushumna), the right is the Pingala, the Left is the Ida. Along these canals flow the psychic forces of the organism, placed across these three canals are Seven Centres of Energy.

These seven Chakras span many different dimensions and operates in both the physical and astral worlds. In the physical world links can be found with the glandular system and the Spinal structure, on the Etheric they can be related to acupuncture meridians and colour fields in the Astral body. However, when correctly used by a Gnostic on the Path of Transfiguration the Chakras take on a new significance and can function as keys to various higher states of consciousness

and assist in the transition of the Gnostic from the Dialectic to Static Planes. To understand how these centres are related to consciousness we need to discuss some basic issues regarding consciousness, Light and Colour and the relation of these to the Seven Days of Creation. Before we embark on this discussion we need to mention the Gnostic view regarding these seven days. In a practical sense we believe that the account in the Old Testament is flawed and has been twisted to suggest that the Lord of Wisdom created the physical world. As has have intimated, the physical creation was undertaken by the Demiurge also known as the Archon Yahweh. However, when the scribes recorded their edited Scriptures they combined various accounts into one and hence hiding beneath the surface of the Genesis account is an esoteric septenary process and this is what we are interested in.

Colours, Consciousness and the Seven Days of Creation

If we could imagine the energy of consciousness as a Pure Light (Lux), then we may consider that if it was refracted through a lens (or crystal) then a spectrum of seven colours would result. In some sense this is what occurs within the human personality. When the consciousness is refracted through the structure of the organism a spectrum of consciousness results. This spectrum, however, since it is in the Dialectic world is illusionary and the consciousness that results is fallen and decadent. Only by awakening the True High Self can the Ruach reform the psychic structure of the organism so the resulting states of Cosmic consciousness can be aligned with the Static Kingdom.

In some sense we can see this re-creation hidden within the distorted creation tale of Genesis. Emanuel Swedenborg, the Great Swedish mystic, taught that hidden with the seven days of creation was a description of our regeneration. Though he didn't relate these to the Chakras, if we link them together we can gain a picture of the spiritual regeneration that takes place in the Gnostic Life. The key however is to realise that since the Lord of Wisdom is recreating man through the Seven Days of Creation, the actions describes are being examined from the perspective of the transformation not fall of man. These inner meanings offer an outline of the process of Transfiguration or Regeneration.

The Seven Days of Regeneration

The first day of regeneration, the recreation of Adamic Man is the Coming of Light.

> The first state is when man begins to known that the good and true are something higher .
>
> Arcana Celestia, (AC 20)
>
> Emanuel Swedenborg

From the Chakric perspective this is the Great Light of Gnosis purifying the base Chakra and bringing our desires into the service of the great Wisdom. This centre is Red as it is the colour of passion and of sacrifice.

The Second Day is the time where we divide the things of the Dialectic from those of the Static. (The firmament from that which is below the firmament).

From the Chakric perspective the Sacral or sexual centre is where we must make decisions about what we service, the Gnosis or the World, the instincts or higher things.

The Third Day is the time when the various forms of knowledge (sea's) are brought together and the dry land appears. The dry land is the state of concrete knowledge, a solid experience of the Gnosis.

At this stage we also have the imagery of vegetation. As in the New Testament allegory of the Sower, we know that Seeds and vegetation represents the truth that has been given us, while the fruits represent the blossoming of these truths within us.

From the Chakric perspective the Solar Plexus is where the focus of our lives is

based. Here we must have a firm focus on the Mysteries and be centred on the Static world. The colour here is Yellow, that of the Trained Intellect.

The Fourth Day the Sun, Moon and Stars appear. According to the most Ancient Arcana the Sun represents Divine Love (Agape), the Moon, Divine Faith and the Stars Gnostic Wisdom.

> After the great luminaries have been kindled and placed in the internal man, and the external receives light from them, then the man first begins to live.
>
> Arcana Celestia,
>
> Volume 39
>
> Emanual Swedenborg

From the Chakric perspective this day is that of the Heart. The centre from which divine Love, Faith and Gnosis flows. It is Green for in its imagery the planets bring about the development of all life.

The Fifth Day fish and birds appear. These reflect things which are aspects of the mind rejuvenated and reborn through the Gnostic knowledge. The imagery of flight illustrates the way in which the mind can now reach new levels of illumination.

From the Chakric perspective the fifth day is the throat centre. The Logos regenerates the mind and new levels of consciousness are reached. It is the blue centre, the colour of devotion.

The Sixth Day is the appearance of the reborn Man through the union of the male and female principles.

The Sixth Day is that of the Ajna centre, where the currents of creation and destruction are leashed and the Gnostic becomes a Master. It is indigo and represents intuition and inner mastery.

On the Seventh Day Regeneration is complete.

The Seventh Day in relation to the Chakric system is that of completed regeneration. The Centre is known as the Sahasrara and its colour is violet or Purple, the colour of royalty.

It is the Birth of the New Man.

The Sacred Cycle

From what we have examined in this study you can begin to see the inner technology of the Mysteries. There are many more correlations that can be added into this system, links can be made with the Seven Planes, so that each Day, festival or activities can be related to each Plane. Correlations can also be made with the Seven Holy Spirits and the Zarathustrian Septenary. On more a complicated scale we may relate the twenty two Hebrew letters to three cycles of seven plus One manifestation letter (Tau), these also relate to the Twenty Two Cards of the Tarot which are, quite rightly, numbered 21 plus 0. The important thing we want to do here is simply lay the foundation. The basic framework of the Chakras as related to the Seven Churches and Seven Days of creation offers us physiological keys from which the real power of the festivals can now be deduced.

The Cycle of Transfiguration

The Structure of the Festivals is revealed in the cycles of the Churches and the Days of Creation. These function to outline to us the physiology and psychology of the septenary system. However, it is imperative that they do not simply stay on a theoretical plane. The Festivals offer a method to link these structures into a practical application. Within the evolution of the Gnostic teachings there has been two distinct phases within the development of the Festival structure, the Old and New Festivals. Within the Older tradition Israel as a national body developed a sequence of Seven feasts which related to the esoteric teachings. In other locations, Aryan man developed similar patterns which were adaptations of the same teachings, but expressed in terms of the surrounding culture. We can certainly see, for

example, a correlation of the esoteric teachings with the Vedic feasts and festivals. Within the New Festivals a more cross-cultural sequence of feasts is outlined since the focus is on the energies which emanate from the Solar sphere, these feasts relate to the Solstices and the Equinoxes. In addition, we find that groups such as the Essenes moved from Lunar to Solar Calenders in line with the new revelations revealed to them from the Pleroma. While certainly the Seven feasts of Israel still apply (and some Gnostic groups still use them) they tend to link to the national identity of Israel in the past rather than to the Pan-Aryan tradition as presently expounded, hence, the Solar tradition of the feasts is now used by the Gnostic Apostolic Church. The Solar Festivals of Israel offer a practical way in which these various systems can be united and practically used. When we appreciate that the aim of the Gnostic system is to transcend the dialectic field while the cycles of earth reflect the Dialectic plane, then it is only a small step to see that Feasts based on the perfection of the individual are the only feasts to reflect the Treasury of Light. A simple correlation of the Solar feasts with the sevenfold patterns outlined in our earlier study will show how each of the festivities rather than being simple folk occurrences are actual periods of psychic and spiritual focus. Each of the feasts may be related to a specific state of consciousness, colour, Chakra and so forth. This creates a pattern by which the feasts celebrate the creation of the New Man, the being who transcends the World of the Archons and reaches the higher planes.

The Timing of the Feasts

> And God said, Let there be lights in the firmament of the heaven to divide the day from the night; and let them be for signs, and for seasons, and for days, and years:
>
> Genesis 1:14

The above verse is an excellent introduction to the nature of the Feasts. The word used for seasons is Moedin which means " an assembly, a fixed time, a festival or a signal ". Since the Lord of Wisdom emanates his power (Logos and Sophia) through the Solar Sphere it would be correct to accept that the cycles of the Solar sphere in relation to man have great relevance. Even though the Essenes used the Old Covenant sequence of Seven Festivals, we also know that they placed great

The Basic Feasts

Feast.	Daily Meditation.	Direction.	Chakra.
Spring Equinox.	Sunrise.	East.	Base and Sacral.
Summer Solstice.	Mid-day.	South.	Solar Plexus and Heart.
Autumn Equinox.	Sunset.	West.	Throat and Third Eye.
Winter Solstice.	Mid-night.	North.	Sahasrara Chakra.

Fig 23

significance on the regular rites associated with the Sun and the cycles of the Sun, these included daily and yearly Solar festivities. Since the cycle of the day runs from Sunrise to Midnight the flow of the festivals move from the Spring Equinox through to the Winter Solstice. Each of the festivals within this cycle is related to the flow of Logoic and Sophic forces from the Solar Sphere to man and reflects their effects on man's consciousness.

The Basic Feasts

There are four feasts within the Gnostic system, the four feasts represent the process of transformation of man, liberation from the World of the Archons and important events within the Mystery tradition. They have many meanings depending on the level of interpretation that is employed. They can be related to the Key of Seven as two factors associated with each festival with the last (Sunset or Winter Solstice being associated with only one).

The Symbolism of the Four Feasts

It is interesting to compare this series of four festivals with the pattern of the Israelite Festivals. The cycle of seven feasts in the Old Testament were divided into three distinct stages...Early Spring, Late Spring or Summer and Autumn, Winter was not included. These relate readily to new cycles of Spring Equinox, Summer Solstice and Autumn Equinox. Why was the Winter Solstice missing ? The reason becomes clear when we understand the esoteric meaning of the feasts as the spiritual development of Gnosis and hence only after Master Jesus revealed the complete Mystery teachings could the final stage, The Mysteries be included. Hence only after the first century CE. was the fourth stage included in the Gnostic system. We are using the Israelite festivals here simply as a reference to show the continuity from the old to new Mysteries. However, as discussed earlier, the older traditions had many different Aryan cultural points of focus and other examples could easily be used. For example. the Druids used a system of four feasts very much the same as those in the Mysteries. however, it is believed they also added four other festivals at the cross periods and hence celebrated eight festivals. For us we have Four Solar Festivals and Four Cross days for esoteric activity. These cross days are periods between the cycles when a doorway opens between the worlds.

The Spring Equinox

The Spring Equinox is the first stage of the Lord of Wisdom's redemptive plan. In the Israelite tradition it had two distinct facets, the Passover and the Feast of Unleavened Bread. (While it is difficult to discuss these because of the distortions now taught in their names, it should be noted that they were originally Aryan festivals and that the Old Testament renditions are twisted, nearly beyond recognition. At the same time they are useful to the modern Gnostic as they give some context to the feasts and festivals we now celebrate). The Passover represents the crucifixion of Jesus and his role as Path-finder in the life of the Gnostic. The Passover also clearly represents the control of animal instincts and dialectic passions within the budding Christian. This first act is the most important for it represents entering the Path of Transfiguration. The Second phase was the Feast of Unleavened Bread. Since yeast represents sin and dialectic domination, it represents our desire to put sin out of our lives and enter the Transfiguration process. It calls

for the control of emotional ties and a new attitude towards the fallen world. Accordingly we can see that the Spring Equinox represents the first stages of the process of rebirth, the awakening of the new self.

The Summer Solstice

The Summer Solstice is the second stage of the Lord of Wisdom's redemptive plan and represents the purification of the mind and being of the Gnostic. In older traditions it centred on the Feast of Pentecost. Pentecost being when the power of the Holy Spirit (Sophia) transformed and transfigured the individual. It also foreshadows the final perfection of the Gnostic, whether believer or Parfait, at the Day of Resurrection or with the special achievement of perfection in life. Within its symbolism is reference to Jesus as the First fruit, the first Perfected One and the final perfection of the reborn.

> (Jesus is) the firstborn among many brothers.
> **Romans 8:29**

The Autumnal Equinox

The Autumnal Equinox is the third stage of the Lord of Wisdom's redemptive plan.It is a complex period which represents the transmutation of the emotions and the unconscious mind of the Gnostic. In older traditions it was related to four distinct events..the Return of Christ i.e. the experience of communing with the Logos (Trumpets), Satan Chained (Atonement) i.e. restraining the Dialectic nature, the Millennium (Tabernacles) i.e. receiving inner teachings direct from the Logos within, and the Judgement (Great Day) i.e. Ascension into the state of divine Sonship as either a Terrestrial or Celestial child.

The Winter Solstice

This special festival represents the final state of Ascension. it is when the Celestial ones move beyond humanity and become the Parfait. It is a festival which represents the removal of the dialectic and the Ascension of the Static. The darkness

Festivals and Correspondences.

Church.	Colour.	Consciousness.	Festival.
Ephesus.	Red.	Action, Sensation.	Spring.
Smyrna.	Orange.	Social Consciousness.	Spring
Pergamus.	Yellow.	Intellect.	Summer.
Thyatira.	Green.	Security and Devotion.	Summer.
Sardis.	Blue.	Idealism.	Autumn.
Philadelphia.	Indigo.	Intuition.	Autumn.
Laodicea.	Violet.	Imagination.	Winter.

Fig 24

of mid-winter represents the death of the lower worlds, the destruction of the ever-occurring cycles and the return of mankind to the higher worlds.

Correspondences

On a practical level, it is important that the student come to an appreciation of the relationship between the festivals. Clearly if we link the Seven Churches and related correspondences to the sequence of Four Solar festivals a new world of understanding arises. While it may take some time and meditation to correlate the information as you work to do so you can see how the Four Solar Festivals are celebrations which bring the spiritual trek into reality. (fig

The Weekly Festival Day

The Solar Festivals do not operate in isolation. They are part of the Lord of Wisdom's overall pattern of re-alignment of man with the Treasury of Light. On a more regular basis, the Lord of Wisdom requires us to celebrate a weekly day of meditation.

The weekly Sabbath is found throughout the whole Bible, The term, Sabbath is derived from the Hebrew world Savat (Shavath) and means to rest or cease from activity. Hence the Sabbath is a special period, from Sunset to Sunset, when no secular work is done and study and spiritual things should be central to the Gnostics mind. The problem with the Biblical account is that it reeks of legalism and the Laws and Covenants of the Archon Yahweh, which the Gnostic sees as so destructive. At the same time, it is clear that the early Aryans did have a day of rest and meditation. It is really up to you whether it be a Saturday or Sunday, both have related symbolism.

The day you choose is a special day. If it is Saturday, in terms of the secret teachings it is related to Saturn and Saturn represents the Treasury of Light, the death of the Dialectic. Hence, the Sabbath represents the secret day, the day in which we rejoice in the fact that we have gone beyond the Dialectic world. While Sunday can be related to all sorts of Solar imagery. For many Gnostics both Saturday and Sundays are sometimes used (especially in congregations), Sunday is a celebration of the power of the Sun and the currents its transmits while Saturday is a more reflective, inner day which celebrates the path behind the sun, beyond the Dialectic. While Sunday is celebratory, Saturday is transformative. Whichever, one or the other or both, is up to you. Transfiguration is a personal process !

Crossing-Days

While the Solar Festivals celebrate the Ascension of Adamic man from Human to Divine and the escape from the World of the Archons to the Treasury of Light. The Crossing Days are special, secret days for esoteric activity. They are not celebrations, feasts or festivals and are generally only used by the Qadesh or Celestial class. They are four in number and exist between the Solar festivals. Many pagan groups today have corrupted these great days and made them festivals of earth worship, this is far from their original meaning. They were great times when the Druids celebrated the Great Mysteries. (Fig 25)

They are important because at each date a gateway or door is formed for a short period between the lower and higher worlds and the trained Qadesh can use this gateway to undertake specialised esoteric activity. We do not aim to outline these rites in detail, but simply include references so you have a greater understanding.

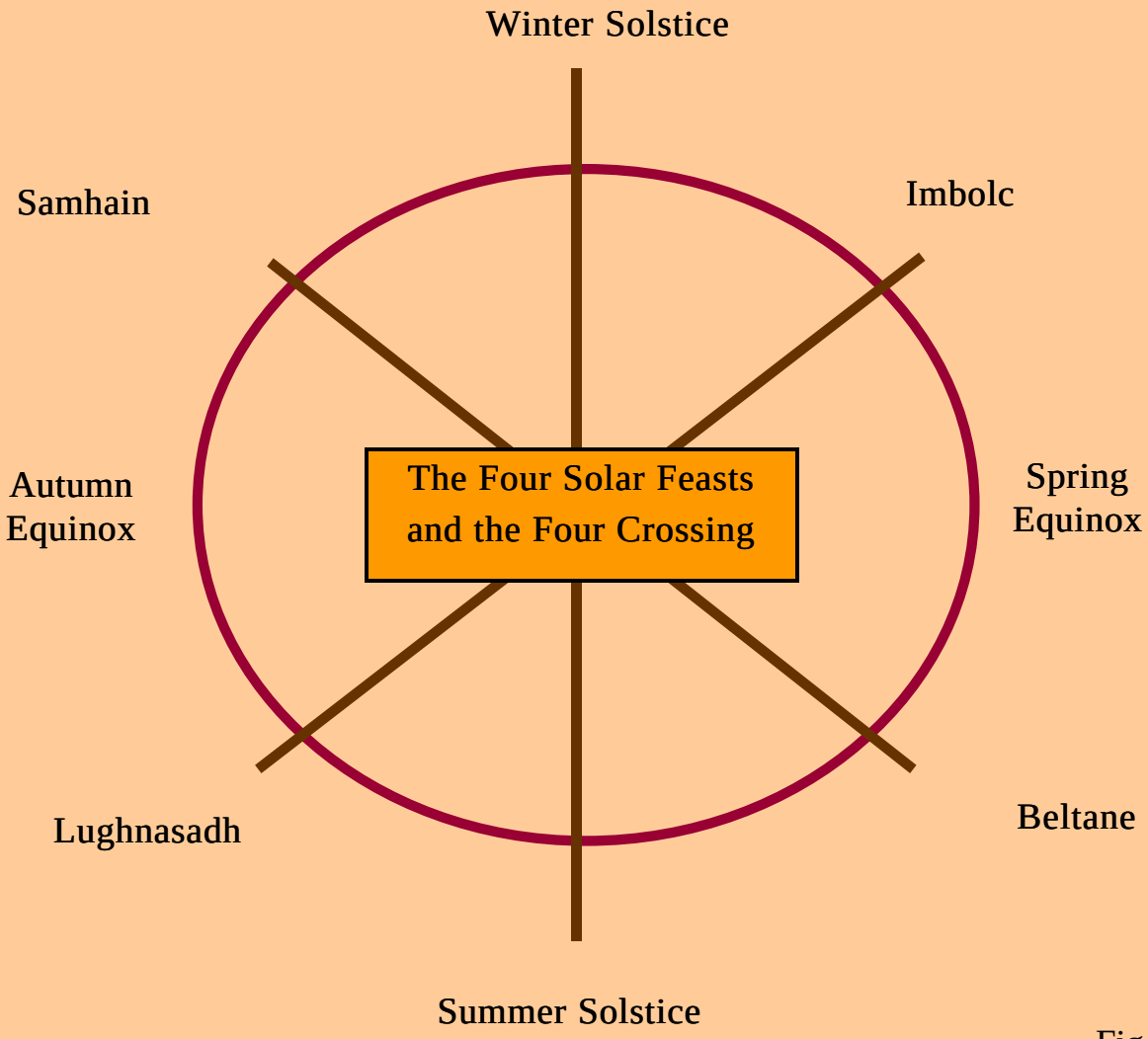


Fig 25

The Four Crossing Days are:

Imbolc	Last Full Moon prior to 1st February
Beltane	May 1st
Lugnassdah	August 1st
Samhain	October 31st

These titles are from the Celtic and Druidic Traditions. It should be remembered that since the Druids formed the Priesthood of a major group of the Lost tribes of

Israel many esoteric teachings were sustained by them which had been lost everywhere else. This is why Jesus himself went to Britain during his lost years and taught the Druids the further Mysteries which on his return he also revealed to his disciples.

In the old Celtic worldview there were many different locales within the upper and lower worlds, the Upper world we may relate to the Treasury of Light while the lower world is the mixed astral worlds where fallen and pure spirits work in the same dimensions, but with enmity. At Imbolc and Samhain the gateway is open to the higher worlds, while at Lugnassdah and Beltane it is open to the underworld.

Conclusions

This chapter has outlined just some of the basic esoteric keys regarding the Transfiguration process. The Chakras, Churches and Feasts and Crossing Days all have great significance and need intensive study to be fully understood. Certainly, they should be considered in terms of what we have already outlined earlier in this Handbook about the Planes, Bodies of Man and other esoteric matters. Much of the material we have covered can only really be discussed in a preliminary manner as it demands not only long years of study but much spiritual growth before it can be fully comprehended. Topics such as the Kabbalah and the Crossing Days can never be fully comprehended until the required spiritual changes have taken place and you are ready to apply them to your own transformation. Other subjects will only be really understood by the Qadesh or those who have been called to that path. The Solar Feasts (and crossing Days) offer an important technology for the Gnostic and need to be truly experienced as well as simply theoretically understood.

Chapter Twelve: Revisioning Scripture

The Ariosophic Tradition

To understand our understanding of the nature of Scripture we need first to consider the earliest Gnostic teachings. This early Pan-Aryan tradition could be best described as Ariosphic, we use the term Ariosophic with deliberation, it literally means " The Wisdom of the Aryans " and hence refers to the whole continuum of Gnosis which is linked with the Adamic peoples. In recent times it has become common to link the Aryans with the isolated group of peoples who entered India and other countries between 1300 and 1000 BC and were believed to be the authors of the early Vedas. In our view this is an incorrect use of the term, the word Aryan comes from the Sanskrit term Arya and means noble and hence actually refers to the whole continuum of Adamic Peoples and their religious structures. Hence, for the Gnostic, the Ariosophic tradition is the whole panorama of religious systems that have evolved out of the Adamic peoples. This includes the earliest migrations from Atlantis to India, South America and Sumeria through to the migrations of Israel (the Dorians who developed into the Greeks, the Celts who developed into the Irish and English, the Anglos, Saxons and so forth) to modern day civilisations.

It seems clear that the Ariosophic tradition is that long legacy of secret wisdom that the Lord of Wisdom has revealed to Aryan man throughout history. While the "Lens of Focus" used by Jesus in his reformation of the Gnosis was certainly the Essene tradition and hence linked to Israelite and Greek traditions, all of the esoteric Ariosophic schools of wisdom have important traditions to offer. Certainly we must remember that the Aryan base structure of India (The Tantras) and the later Aryan Vedas were of similar structure to the Sumerian teachings out of which the Israelite cosmology developed. Accordingly, while we use the “Christian” Gnosis Revelation as the key, so to speak, there are many chests to unlock and much treasure to find !

The modern trend to attempt to focus only on the Hebraic revelation is fraught with contradictions, it is quite clear that the New Testament was written in Aramaic and Greek and hence only by using the mystery traditions behind these cultures can it be understood. While it is clear that Hebrew, Greek, Aramaic and Sanskrit have common linguistic roots, each had its own adaptation of the Ariosophic Mysteries. The fundamentalist trend to reject the "Greek" New Testament and create a Hebrew only tradition is undefendable from a historical perspective. John's Gospel, for example, can only be understood with reference to the Greek Mystery cults. The Old and New Testaments in some sense can be related to Judah and Northern Israel, one is Hebraic while the other is, like many of the ten lost tribes, of a Greek philosophical extraction. The mysteries are one and the same, the cultural perspective varies from heritage to heritage.

The relevance of this is to understand how the Mystery tradition survived. While the Bible provides the key, many of the teachings themselves are locked within other Ariosophic traditions and must be deciphered and restored. For example, while the Seven Churches, Festivals, Days of Creation and so forth link well, only with the early Ariovedic Chakra tradition could the whole picture be gained. In traditional Gnostic schools religious texts were placed in classes and perhaps this method may assist the student to gain an overall picture. (Fig 26)

These classes are important as they show the Christian Gnostic tradition as part of an overall Ariosophic heritage. Gnostics are not provincial hicks who ignore all other Aryan traditions except that of the Bible and related works. True Gnosticism centres on the revelation of the Lord of Wisdom to Aryan Israel and the restoration of the Gnosis by Jesus, but includes the various Ariosophic traditions which have guided Adamic man to discover himself through the millennia. This unique relationship between Revelation and Discovery, Revealed Gnosis and Explored Gnosis is central to our understanding of how the Gnostic traditions developed. By keeping this in mind you can appreciate how the deeper and more secret traditions came to light and how they were unlocked with the Keys of the Bible.

> I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven; whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.
> **Matthew 16:19**

Classification of Scripture within the Gnostic Apostolic Church - (Figure 26)

Class A	Biblical Sources. Primarly New Testament. They must be decoded and carefully weighed against the Gnostic Heritage. The Old Testament is totally unreliable.	These are the original Keys inspired by the Lord of Wisdom and offer us the way to understand the Gnostic Teachings. These include many of the Dead Sea Scrolls and Gnostic Texts.
Class B	Para-Biblical Sources	Other Dead Sea Scrolls, Apocryphal Biblical Books, Secondary Gnostic Texts etc. Also Kabbalistic Texts such as the Zohar etc.

Primary Spiritual Value

Class C	Ariosophic Texts.	Vedas, Tantras, Agathas etc. Early Ariosophic texts.

They are originally of Aryan origin though changed by later claimants to the texts. (For example the Tantras and Vedas are all of Aryan origin, it is scholarly stupidity to claim they are of Dravidian Authorship.These texts can only be understood and restored in Terms of Class A and B Documents.

Class D	Ariosophic Texts.	These are relatively modern Ariosophic texts such as works by Alchemists, Hermeticists etc.

Class D documents are of inspirational value only and have no scriptural authority within themselves.

Restoring the Bible

When we consider the Bible and the nature of the Gnostic tradition we need to grapple with many questions. The first major issue is the corruption and distortion that has crept into the Bible and the process of restoring it to its original Gnostic form. The process of restoring the Bible is a difficult task because it involves a wide range of problems. Obviously, there is the simple issue of what books should be in the Bible, what books have been edited and changed and what texts have been tampered with. But there is far more, there are many sections in the Bible which have been added in, words have been translated in obscure and contradictory ways and terms which had specific applications at the time of writing have been twisted out of context. Still, this is a beginning, and the first step to Biblical understanding is context. So much of the Bible can only be comprehended in terms of the surrounding passages, the flow of the book and the period it was written in. The verse structure of the Bible is artifical, it was only added in for ease of reading with modern translations, hence, many of the stops, passage divisions and paragraph forms, which we take for granted, are simply arbitrary. To give you a classic example - what did the criminal on the cross actually say to Jesus in Luke 23:43 ?

> And Jesus said unto him, Verily I say unto thee, To day shalt thou be with me in paradise
> or
> And Jesus said unto him, Verily I say unto thee To day, shalt thou be with me in paradise.

There were no comma's in the original edition, so did Jesus say that the criminal would be in paradise today (ie. ascend to heaven on his death) or did Jesus simply say the criminal would be in paradise sometime and simply use a turn of phrase to intimate how he was speaking, " I say unto thee today ". This is a clear example of how modern grammatical composition, when added into the Bible, can be used to produce misleading theology. In the above example, we see how certain denominations using modern translations are able to use the first form of the verse in an attempt to prove that we go straight to Heaven when we die. Even though this concept is based on a dubious use of grammar, especially dubious if we understand that the grammar was added in by translators for easy reading; nothing more, nothing less.

What about the Old Testament ?

The Gnostic attitude towards the Old Testament is ambivalent to say the least. The major issue is that it was written during the Babylonian captivity and edited to fit the prevailing Pharisaic form of Judaism that existed at that time. The fact is the Old Testament was written at the same time as the Babylonian Talmud and other questionable Edomite/Judaic texts. In this context it becomes clear that the Old Testament as we have it is not a Gnostic or Israelite text, but a text distorted to fit the Talmudic Jewish tradition. Accordingly, it mixes together accounts from a wide variety of sources and contexts with little thought to their integrity and original meaning. We can deduce that there are at least four Old Testament strands and these are in addition to the original Israelite Gnosis. This original gnosis was sustained by secrecy and taught mouth to ear (Kabbalah) by a small Pneumatic class, little of this tradition has been recorded in the Biblical accounts. Accordingly, the Old Testament is of extremely limited value. Most of the terms, words and concepts used are based on the original Israelite mystery language (Hebrew) and hence some of the esotericism may be coaxed out of the text ,but this is not simple and is extremely time consuming. The simple reality is that the language itself obviously works regardless of ethics, so the same terms which can be used to refer to the Lord of Wisdom can be used, and are used, to praise the Archon Yahweh. Regardless of the Esotericism, we must be clear about the nature of the Old Testament in its current form. The Gnostic view is that if you followed the traditions in the Old Testament as they presently are, you would be enslaving yourself under Archons rather than liberating yourself through the Aeons. The Laws, Covenants and other agreements are sure signs of the enslavement of mans spirit by the Archon Yahweh, they illustrate how distorted the Old Testament really is. From a historical perspective there is little of the original Israelite teachings in the Old Testament. When we contemplate that Israel and environs had various religious traditions including Gnostic (Esotericism), the EL tradition (Canaanite Paganism), various strands of EL and Yahweh Worship and then later, the Priestclass of the Pharisees, one can start to get the picture of how distorted and confused the Old Testament really is. It is a sign of extreme credulity if not stupidity for Christians to try and interpret the whole Old Testament as a coherent early revelation and it does little for their intellectual integrity.

Bible Narratives

Biblical criticism has shown that there are at least four intermingled narratives within the Old Testament, most of which specifically seem to be in conflict. The Epic tradition seems to date from the original Exodus while the Priestly tradition dates from the Babylonian captivity. This second narrative was probably written by Talmudic Pagans and hence was not even Israelite in origin ! Therefore, it is clear that most sections of the Old Testament have been re-worked. A number of examples may help you to get the overall picture.

In the Epic Tradition the original covenant includes the Ten Words or Ten commandments only, while the Priestly tradition includes the Covenant code laws. (These laws could not have been written at the Exodus as they include agricultural regulations and references to the Canaanites which obviously originate after their settlement in Palestine).

In the Epic Tradition the Covenant Code was an adaptation of the Ten Words into civil law yet we can show how this code has been re-written time and time again (producing the Priestly Version) and moved back into Scripture in an attempt to prove that the latest set of laws were actually written by Moses.

In the Epic Tradition Moses crosses the Reed Sea (not the Red Sea) when the wind blows the waves apart (this still occurs today), the emphasis being on God using nature to achieve a miracle. The Priestly tradition has Moses raising his arms and opening the Red Sea, this second tradition emphasises the nearly magical power of Moses and hence, by inference, the occult power of the later Priesthood.

In the Epic Tradition there are eight plagues upon Egypt, in the Priestly tradition, Ten.

These differences, and many others, are major and show that while in Babylon the Pharisees mixing Babylonian Paganism and Judaism not only wrote such texts as the Talmud but also edited together the Old Testament. Hence, the task of restoration becomes even more daunting and reference to documents such as the Dead Sea Scrolls becomes imperative.

A further issue is with the clear intimation that the Bible has an inner meaning. Certainly the oral tradition of the Israelites known as " Kabbalah " taught the Bible had at least three levels and the modern Biblical scholar Barbara Thiering outlines how the Essenes used a " Pesher " code to hide certain Mysteries from the profane. All these things must be considered when we start to quote the Bible or use Scripture to prove a certain viewpoint. The Gnostic Apostolic Church is working hard to help in the restoration of the Bible to its original purity and to reinstate the esoteric or Mystery teachings that are central to real Christianity.

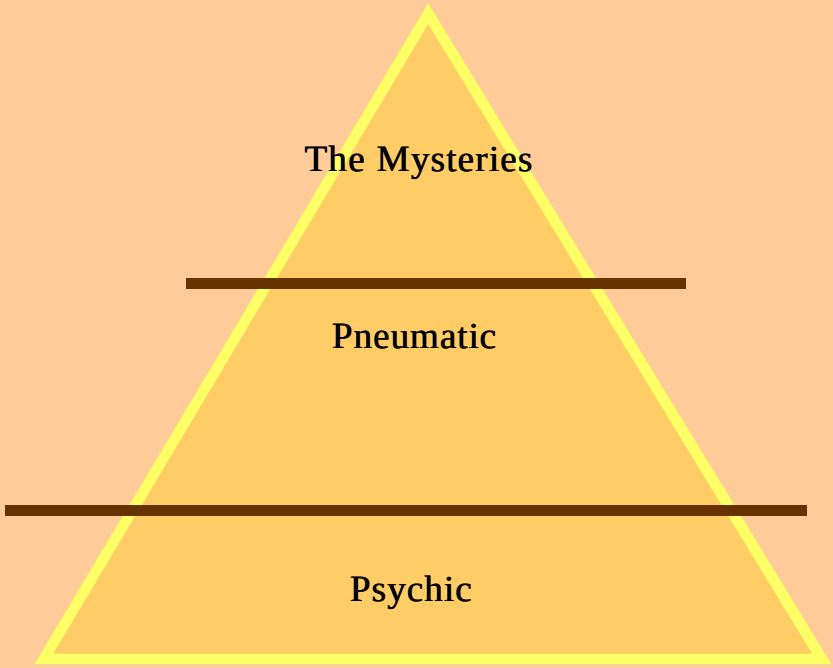
Multiple Levels of Truth

Inherent within the Mystery teachings is the understanding that Truth is a complex and multi-faceted thing and cannot be reduced to simple doctrine or dogma. Accordingly, within the ancient Gnostic teachings there was a clear understanding that there were (and are) multiple levels on which Truth operates. When St.Paul discusses in Hebrews that there is Solid Food and there is milk or infant food in regards to Truth , he is simply re-iterating the teaching of multiple truth levels.

> In fact, though by this time you ought to be teachers, you need someone to teach you the elementary truths of God's word all over again. You need milk, not solid food! Anyone who lives on milk, being still an infant, is not acquainted with the teaching about righteousness. But solid food is for the mature, who by constant use have trained themselves to distinguish good from evil.
>
> **Hebrews 5:12.**

The importance of these multiple levels cannot be underestimated, for inherent within them is the way in which the Lord of Wisdom reveals himself to man. Jesus certainly acknowledged these triple levels in the way in which he taught his message. There is clear evidence within the New Testament that Jesus used Parables to reveal certain teachings to different classes of disciples. In this structure of teaching there is wisdom for the Multitudes (the people of Israel), the Seventy and for the Twelve Disciples and these levels clearly refer to the three degrees of truth.

Fig 27



The Outer Court: Public (Parable) teachings

> The disciples came to him and asked, "Why do you speak to the people in parables?"
>
> He replied, The knowledge of the secrets of the kingdom of heaven has been given to you, but not to them. Whoever has will be given more, and he will have an abundance. Whoever does not have, even what he has will be taken from him.
>
> Matthew 13:10-12

These multiple levels can also be seen in Prophecy. For many Christian Fundamentalists prophecy is fulfilled in one time-period and one only, hence specific schools refer to prophecy as fulfilled in Historical events, or in the future, or with a combination of both. The problem with these one-event schools is that they do not understand that Prophecies may have multiple fulfilment. For example, There is no reason why the 70th or last Week of Daniel cannot occur both at the Time of Jesus

and at the End of time in the form of ‘The Tribulation’. We could best visualise prophecy (and general Scripture) like a cup, it can be emptied all at once or partially; a sip at a time, hence, a prophecy or even a general Scripture can have multiple meanings and multiple fulfilments.

> The Bible is a part of ancient religion which was both exoteric and esoteric. Theologians fail to recognise that they have but the outer shell, although Jesus made the existence of an inner teaching very clear. Anciently, religion was divided into three degrees and man spent his life mastering them.
>
> Dr.R.S.Clymer

Traditionally, deeper levels of meaning are understood as occurring in three different degrees, now, that doesn't mean a verse cannot have seven or ten different meanings (some definitely do), but that generally the Bible is focused on a triple level of interpretation. To help explain this I will give you a range of different examples showing how different Biblical verses and concepts can have multiple meanings and that even some of these multiple meanings can lead to other multiple meanings !

For example, the Seven Churches may be studied on multiple levels.

Level One	Seven Churches of Revelation as literal historical Churches.
Level Two	Seven Churches as seven periods in development of the Ecclesia (Church) on Earth.
Level Three	Seven Churches as representation of the seven locations with the organism (Chakras). With related associations to the Seven Planes and Seven Bodies.

Now, you may say, " Come on ! you want us to believe that Scripture can apply on all these levels " .Well, just take a look at the Churches of Revelation. Not only do the specific descriptions regarding attributes of each Church (with very specific

outlines of their good and bad points) fit perfectly into the framework of the seven periods of Church history which span from the first century to the present. But these attributes link perfectly with both the traditional Hindu and western descriptions of the qualities and dangers found in each Chakra centre. Coincidence ? Unlikely !

Conclusions

These multiple levels of truth are imperative for without them it is impossible to grasp the overall picture. Just like you build a house in stages, Truth comes in stages and only when you have grasped Level One are you able to expand and deepen your understanding into Levels Two, Three and so on. In the many volumes published by the Church we follow the same principle, lesson will build on lesson, chapter on chapter. So, if some of the earlier material seems too simple or not to go far enough, wait until the building blocks are laid onto the foundation. The Gnostic Handbook is the Foundation and other volumes will build the house. And lets be clear about it, without a firm foundation the house will fall !

Chapter Thirteen: A Modern Gnostic Ecclesia

The Gnostic Apostolic Church and Other Religions

The Gnostic Apostolic Church aims to restore the pristine teachings of the Gnostic traditions. Throughout history there have been many religions which offered great spiritual wisdom, but with time, each have become corrupted. It is quite clear that the modern representatives of the various religions such as Christianity, Buddhism, Hinduism and so forth have little knowledge of the original Gnosis their religions held. Hence, for the student of Gnosis *modern religions* offer little in the way of spiritual development, save as perhaps sources of sociological study.

In the cases of Judaism and Christianity it is quite clear that their modern representatives offer an apostate version of the original teachings and hence are not only misleading true seekers, but actively destroying true Gnostic traditions. They should be avoided and treated with enmity. Early forms of Buddhism, Hinduism and other Aryan religions though derived from the original Gnostic Mysteries have tended to be distorted by time, they must always have a place within the Gnostic Canon but only as re-interpreted by the Gnostic canon.

Continuing Revelation

One of the keynotes of the Gnostic system is the revelation is personal, that is to say, that Revelation as found in the many thousands of sacred texts is only sacred to those people who accept that they are sacred. The various Gnostic Scriptures are useful to the modern Gnostic student but should not be treated as "every word inspired by God". One of the more important things when it comes to Scripture is

mans reason. We need to study the historical basis for the Bible, Gnostic Texts, Dead Sea Scrolls and Nag Hammadi Library so we can get a context for where Gnosticism has come from. At the same time we must be aware of the great distortions that have occurred with all Old Testament, Judaic and Christian texts. The key concept within Gnosticism is continual revelation, so, for example, the festivals evolved from the seven feasts of Israel into the present Solar celebrations. We can also see the development of Gnostic doctrine and Theurgy in light of recent research and experience. Continual revelation while of significant importance always needs to be seen in the context of the Gnostic lineage, anybody can have a revelation and they can come from any one of a million sources. The modern Gnostic tradition as exemplified in the Gnostic Apostolic Church carries on this line of spiritual and Gnostic revelation valuing our heritage and traditions as well as well as recent refinements and revelations.

Churches and Temples

In the Gnostic Apostolic Church we realise that a "Temple of the Gnosis" is a permanent doorway between the worlds and hence we create two distinct environments for use within the Church. The Actual term Church comes from the base word "Ecclesia" and means people and/or community, hence within the Church we use the Church building as a meeting place, a counselling centre and a nucleus for Church activity within the congregation. Our Churches are where services of a worshipful and celebratory nature are held.

The Temple of the Gnosis is a different affair. In it both initiations and ritual are held which have special power as the Temple forms a permanent intersection between worlds. It is a place of great power and beauty and should always be treated as such. In the Gnostic Apostolic Church both Churches and Temples are governed by ordained ministers of our tradition, even though laymen are encouraged to developed private "Spiritual" spaces within their own homes for their own use

The Use of Ritualism

Ritual is a means by which we can formulate an artificial world in which internal realities (and other spiritual worlds) can be explored. Through ritual the conscious

mind is controlled and the unconscious is explored and conditioned so that external realities from beyond the physical plane can be investigated, other spiritual powers contacted and other dimensions opened.

The key to ritual is that it must have two distinct forms. The first must always be the training of the mind, the exploration of the unconscious and a clear and precise understanding of the structure of your own psyche. Then and only then are you ready to enter into work of a more advanced spiritual nature. Before ritual can become a doorway to other dimensions, it is imperative that the mind is trained and under control, otherwise, as is the case with so many untrained spiritual practitioners, obsession and delusion result. Beyond all these considerations is the simple issue of intent. While techniques of ritual and occultism can be remarkably similar across all traditions that does not make them qualitatively the same. A knife can be used to heal and to kill, so can the occult traditions. The focus must be on Transfiguration and then ritual and related methodologies can be used, however, the intent must always be clear and pure. Too many modern occult orders ignore ethics, morality and intent and teach their techniques to all and sundry, our response to this is from the New Testament…..Do not throw your pearls before swine.

The Monastic Life

In the Gnostic Apostolic Church we have three levels of Priesthood. The basic minister or pastor of the Church, the Senior Pastor who is a member of the Pneumatic Priesthood who has however decided to continue working within his or her pastoral duties and those of the Qadesh Priesthood. Members of the Qadesh Priesthood have vowed himself/herself to the Gnostic tradition. They are celibate, but in a special sense, they are encouraged to have full sex lives but to keep focus on the True Self and the Lineage of the Gnosis. Spiritual and sexual partnerships are permitted, but the duties the priesthood must come first. As discussed in early chapters, the Senior Pastors and Qadesh Priesthood are members of the Pneumatic priesthood and are non-reproductive, whether they be heterosexual or homosexual in orientation. Members of the Qadesh Priesthood are usually homosexual.

The Gnostic Tradition: A Brief history of the Church

It is difficult to encapsulate the history of the Gnostic tradition. However, it is fair to say that it began in the time of the great Sumerian and Egyptian kingdoms and was passed down, at first in oral form, (Cf.Kabbalah " passed by mouth ") through esoteric brotherhoods. In the west this knowledge was passed onto the initiate (Jesus) in the Essene Sect, after his death his followers passed on the secret teachings. This new order centred around Ormus (46 A.D.) and continued through the Knights Templars, the Eleutherians, the Church of Carmel, the Rosicrucians and onwards. In modern times the lineage continued in a variety of forms, the more ritually oriented line was continued in such organisations as the Hermetic Order of the Golden Dawn, the early Theosophical movements, the Astrum Argentinum, the Ordeo Templi Orientis and the Fraternity of Saturn (Germany). However, these organisations got bogged down in the technology of the spiritual processes and lost the vision and art of the Gnosis. Hence modern reresentatives of such organisations and others found in the "ritual magic(k)" community have little in common with the real Gnostic legacy. Various mystical brotherhoods have also arisen claiming to follow the Gnosis, but these have, in the most, tended to be Liberal Christian organisations who have still not realised the complete framework of the Gnostic system. Most are simply supposed Liberal minded Christians who are sick of modern Christianity but do not have the illumination of the Gnostic traditions. The Gnostic Apostolic Church has developed out of the work of Pastor Robert Ledwidge who, after studying a wide range of spiritual traditions and systems, came to a realisation of the nature of the Gnostic legacy and its ramifications in religious, political and developmental fields.

The Role and Purpose of the Gnostic Apostolic Church

The Gnostic Apostolic Church is a modern manifestation of the current which has been working to redeem man from the prison of matter. Throughout history there has been a continuum of secret Churches or Ecclesias which have carried on the Mysteries of the Gnosis. The Gnostic Apostolic Church is representative of the Remnant Ecclesia that carries on the Gnosis in the Aeon of the Remnant. The

Gnostic Apostolic Church is the title used for the general educational and evangelistic operations of the Brethren, it symbolises our focus on the Restoration of the original Gnosis. The term Ecclesia or Church is not simply an organisation or a group of people aiming for the same goal though it includes these. It is a special spiritual nucleus which invigorates those who join it and motivates them in their quest for self awareness. The Institute for Gnostic Studies is used to further the educational aspects of the Church's mission.

Membership and Priesthood

Membership in The Gnostic Apostolic Church can be divided into five classes;

① Associate.
② Full Membership.
③ Priesthood.
④ Senior and Monastic Priesthood.
⑤ Council Membership.

These five classes represent the various levels of specialisation within the Church structure.

Associate Membership is available to anyone who has a general interest in the Church.

Full Membership can be divided into two classes:

Full Membership (General).
This is available to any present or past student of our Church's study courses issued through the Institute for Gnostic Studies who has an interest in the Churches ongoingwork.

Full Membership (Initiate).
This is available to those who have completed Church training courses and have been initiated but do not wish to apply for ordination.

Due to recent changes in the flow of the ages (the acceleration of the Kali Age), our present position is that only those who agree to forgo reproduction can become full members of the Church. Those already with children can join as long as they agree to not have any further children. Those who already have families are eligible to join as full members (General or Initiate) but cannot enter the priesthood without special permission from the Council.

The *Priesthood* can also be divided into three classes:

Priesthood (General). This is available to those who have completed the ordination training program of the Church and have been approved for ordination via a private interview with the Church council.

Priesthood (Senior). This is available only to those who have a special calling to the Pneumatic Priesthood but wish to remain in Pastoral duties.

Priesthood (Monastic). This is available only to those who have a special calling to become Monks and Nuns of the Gnosis. The study program is the same as for the general Priesthood but with extra units and special ordination vows. Priests within this class are initiated into the Qadesh Priesthood and live a monastic lifestyle.

Post ordination studies are required.

The *Council of the Aeons.* This is the Inner Council of the Church, it is invigorated by the power of the Lord of Wisdom and empowers the Church and its activities. It interviews all candidates for ordination and has the final decision regarding approval or rejection of ordination candidates.

Sacraments of the Church

The Gnostic Apostolic Church acknowledges seven sacraments, these are:

① Naming.
② Baptism.
③ Ordination.
④ Union.
⑤ Illumination.
⑥ Rites of Passing.
⑦ Feasts and Festivals.

In connection with these the Church also acknowledges Healing Sacraments and the Sacred Eucharist.

Naming Rituals are similar to Baptisms, they welcome a child into the world and give a special protection for that child. However, they do not lock a child into any specific form of religious practice or tradition. As our Church no longer encourages reproduction this rite is of limited importance.

Baptism recognises the great spiritual changes which take place during this period. These rites, sometimes known as "Rites of Water and Fire" are somewhat similar to confirmation however, they confirm a persons entry into adulthood as well as into a spiritual life.

Ordination. Ordination is that special sacrament that confirms a persons spiritual calling. In the traditions of the Gnostic Apostolic Church it has two distinct forms, General and Qadesh.

Each has its own specific vows and requirements.

Rites of Union. These are the rites of Union (they are available for either heterosexual or homosexual relationships of stability)..

Illumination is the sacrament given to acknowledge the achieving of a state of spiritual enlightenment. It is a real sacrament of " Sainthood " not the frail imitation the apostate Church upholds. It is only given to the highest initiates of the Path of the Serpent.

The Rite of Passing is the rite which guides a person through the time of death into the afterlife, it has much in common with the rites of the Egyptian and Tibetan Books of the dead. In the Gnostic traditions there are various rites of passing, including rituals for those left behind, rites for those passing away, rites for over the body, rites for just after death and so forth.

Feasts and Festivals These are various religious celebrations which occur during the year, included within this category is the Sacred Eucharist which celebrates the manifestation of the Christ within all who have become " Children of the Lord of Wisdom " by following the Path of Transfiguration.

Communion. This is celebrated as required to symbolise the life of Jesus and his role in our entering the covenant with Lord of Wisdom..

Other sacraments include Sacraments of Healing and Blessing.

Conclusions

The goal of The Gnostic Apostolic Church is to awaken mankind and bring him to a realisation of his true nature. Mankind is moving towards the Omega Point, the Great day when all must graduate or fall. This day is also the Day of Judgement in that only those who have entered the Path of Transfiguration and are being reborn can return to the Treasury of Light.

Those who are pursuing the Path of Transfiguration are truly New Men, Homo Novus and can look forward to a new world and a new way of life as the Christ current transforms them from being slaves of the Demiurge to Children of the Treasury of Light.